

# Situation Report #44: COVID-19

Ministry of Health | Health System Emergency Management Branch

March 9, 2020

---

## Situation:

- Case counts as of March 9, 2020:
  - China: 80,735 cases; 3,119 deaths
  - Asia & Oceania: 9,387 cases; 75 deaths (South Korea - 53)
  - Europe: 12,744 cases; 419 deaths (Italy - 366)
  - Middle East: 7,586 cases; 242 deaths (Iran - 237)
  - Africa: 91 cases; 1 death
  - Latin America and Caribbean: 88 cases; 1 death
  - North America: 615 cases
    - United States - 548 cases; 22 deaths
    - Canada - 67 cases; 1 death
- New cases in Ontario will be announced twice daily, at 10:30am and 5:30pm, on Ontario's [website](#). It includes relevant information about each of the new cases and this will be updated seven days a week. A news release about this change can be found [here](#).
- Three new cases was reported today in Ontario, bringing the cumulative total to 34 (this includes 4 resolved cases).
- In Ontario, there are 22 persons under investigation with lab results pending.
- British Columbia has reported the first death in Canada related to COVID-19.
- Four new countries/territories/areas (Channel Islands, Paraguay, St. Barthelemy, Brunei) have reported cases of COVID-19 in the past 24 hours.
- Over 100 countries have now reported laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19.

## Actions Taken:

- The Ministry of Long-Term Care has developed a memo for the long-term care homes sector that will reflect a change to active screening of visitors to these facilities. It has been attached to today's Situation Report along with new signage (English and French) for the sector to reflect these changes.
- A status update memo to Health System Organizations and Providers on the work of the Provincial Command Table is attached to this Situation Report.
- The Public Health Agency of Canada is now [recommending](#) that Canadians avoid all cruise ship travel due to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. The Public Health Agency of Canada is also advising all travellers monitor their health for 14 days after arriving back in Canada.
- Information sheets have been translated into four Indigenous languages (Mohawk, Swampy Cree, Eastern Ojibway, and Oji-Cree) and will be uploaded to Ontario's [website](#) shortly.
- The Government of Canada announced repatriation flights for the 235 Canadians who are currently on the Grand Princess cruise ship. They will be flown to Canada and will spend 14 days in quarantine at CFB Trenton. The Red Cross is mobilizing to provide onsite care at the airport, with EMAT providing some offsite support.
- The Public Health Agency of Canada has developed two new guidance documents for health system partners:
  - [Community-based measures to mitigate the spread of coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) in Canada](#)
  - [Risk-informed decision-making for mass gatherings during COVID-19 global outbreak](#)

- Future scenario planning is currently underway amongst provincial partners and stakeholders at regional levels and within many sectors. Further information will be communicated as the process evolves.
- As a reminder, the ministry can be contacted through the Health Care Provider Hotline for policy guidance related to COVID-19. At this time, the hotline is unable to provide clinical advice regarding the management of cases.

### **Next Steps:**

- The ministry is updating guidance documents and will distribute them once they are complete.
- The ministry will work with and support local partners and the federal government to support repatriated citizens.
- The ministry continues to work with health system partners to understand their needs with respect to personal protective equipment and other supplies.

