

# Situation Report #51: COVID-19

Ministry of Health | Health System Emergency Management Branch

March 16, 2020

---

## Situation:

- Case counts as of March 16, 2020:
  - China: 80,860 cases; 3,213 deaths
  - Asia & Oceania: 12,055 cases; 136 deaths (South Korea - 75)
  - Europe: 63,446 cases; 2,763 deaths (Italy – 2,158)
  - Middle East: 16,655 cases; 868 deaths (Iran - 853)
  - Africa: 371 cases; 7 deaths
  - Latin America and Caribbean: 713 cases; 5 deaths
  - North America: 4,507 cases
    - United States – 4,171 cases; 70 deaths
    - Canada - 336 cases; 4 deaths (all deaths are in British Columbia)
- 32 new cases were reported today in Ontario, bringing the cumulative total to 177 (this includes 5 resolved cases).
- In Ontario, there are 1537 persons under investigation with lab results pending.

## Actions Taken:

- Working closely with Telehealth Ontario, Ontario Health and the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario, the province has [announced](#) it is expanding TeleHealth service capacity to help address the increased daily call volumes and reduce call wait times.
- The Federal Government announced a number of new measures today including:
  - Canada will be closing its borders to foreign travellers. Exceptions will be made for air crews, diplomats, immediate family members and U.S. citizens.
  - Airlines will ban anyone who is showing symptoms of the virus from getting on a plane.
  - All international flights will be redirected to one of four airports in Canada (Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal and Calgary).
- The Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health announced additional public health measures during today's press conference. Further details will be provided.
- Guidance for pharmacies has been updated and is available on the [Ministry of Health's website](#). Additional guidance documents will follow tomorrow.
- A summary of today's Command Table meeting is attached.