

Happy Friday everyone,

As I am writing this e-mail it is snowing outside and I am not sure how I feel about that. I just wanted to say that I am so grateful how everyone has come together in the last several weeks to keep everyone safe and it is working. We need to continue to follow all the necessary precautions to keep Covid-19 out of the homes. I know the media is saying it is getting better but it is very important we keep doing what we are doing to prevent the spread. On that note I have some good news today that will make a lot of people happy.

We are going to allow take out and food delivery again but everyone must follow the appropriate precautions. It is very important as we re-introduce things that we are very cautious that social distance is being followed and all necessary precautions are being followed. Please read the necessary precautions below.

I know everyone is doing the happy dance right now with this news!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We also need to be very careful when taking people supported out for walks. If they are not able to maintain social distance with people in the public we need to find alternative ways to get them outside in the yard where they can maintain that social distance. PPE must still be worn when going out for walks. I know a lot of employees are worried about how this looks but it is necessary right now and most of the public is wearing PPE also. Right now it is not about image it is about keeping people safe and preventing a Covid-19 outbreak.

Hope everyone has a great weekend and please make sure your read the information below.

Below I have posted some information from the Health Unit and CLW extra precautions that need to be followed at all times:

Community Living Windsor Extras Precautions above the Health Unit Precautions:

- 1. When ordering take out or food delivery everyone must have their own separate order. This includes pizza orders. Everyone should be ordering their own personal pizza.**
- 2. Take out and food deliveries need to be transferred from the take out containers to dishes. Take out containers need to be discarded immediately.**
- 3. Nobody should be reaching their hand in any type of container to grab their food. It should be sorted with utensils and individually handed out.**
- 4. Drink orders should be transferred to a glass from home.**
- 5. All deliveries must be left at the door.**

Health Unit Information:

There is no current evidence that food is a likely source or route of transmission of the COVID-19 virus. However, it is recommended that good hygiene practices are followed during food handling and eating to prevent the spread of foodborne illnesses and viruses such as COVID-19.

Hand Hygiene and Safe Food Handling

Make sure to wash your hands with soap and warm water for 15-20 seconds:

- Before, during, and after preparing any food
- After handling raw meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs
- Before eating
- After touching garbage
- After wiping counters or cleaning surfaces with chemicals
- After using the washroom
- After performing personal care
- After touching pets, pet food, or pet treats
- After coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose
- After using serving utensils

Gloves are not necessary when handling food and proper hand washing is the best way to control the spread of germs. Contaminated gloves can spread germs to your hands while removing them.

As an extra precaution to help avoid foodborne illness and the transmission of COVID-19, we recommend following standard [safe food handling practices](#) such as frequent washing and sanitizing of all food contact surfaces, equipment, and utensils. Follow the four basic steps of cleaning equipment and dishware: pre-rinse, clean with detergent, rinse, and sanitize.

Food Safety and Take-Out or Drive-Thru Services

There is no current evidence that eating take-out food or drive-thru food increases your risk of foodborne illness. Compared with dining-in at a restaurant, ordering take-out food and drive-thru services reduces the amount of surfaces and people that you come into contact with. Remember the following:

- Always maintain the required 2 metre physical distance between yourself and others if waiting in line to pick up takeout food
- Wait in your car if possible
- Prepay online before pick up if this is an option

- To further reduce risks, wash hands with soap and warm water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer after handling any food packaging and before eating
- For any safety concerns related to how food is being handled, [file a food safety complaint](#) anonymously on our website. Public Health Inspectors will follow up within 24 hours

Note: For individuals required to self-isolate at home, a meal delivery service must be used instead of picking up take-out food or drive-thru.

Food Safety and Meal Delivery Services

Similar to take-out and drive-thru food, meal delivery services help with maintaining physical distancing and reduces the amount of surfaces and people that you come into contact with. There is no current evidence that using a meal delivery service increases your risk of illness. Remember the following:

- If you are currently required to self-isolate, be sure to have no interaction with the delivery person by prepaying online and asking them to leave the food delivery at the entrance to your home.
- Thoroughly wash your hands with soap and warm water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer after handling any food packaging and before eating.
- For any safety concerns related to how food is being handled, [file a food safety complaint](#) anonymously. Public Health Inspectors will follow up within 24 hours.

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