

Important! New Outbreak Management Process

Effective April 7th, 2026, a new process for outbreak management is being implemented to streamline communication and documentation.

What's changing?

Upon declaration of an outbreak, you will receive a SharePoint folder to your provided email. This folder will include:

- Outbreak measures
- Line list
- Lab requisition
- Repatriation Tool
- Final outbreak investigation summary

What this means for you:

- You can update the line list daily directly within the shared document
- Email submissions are **no longer required**
- The ID investigator will review updates in real time

Training & Support

To support this transition, the following short videos are available on our website: [Long-Term Care, Retirement Home and Elder Care Lodge Resources | Lakelands Public Health](#)

- [How to access your SharePoint outbreak folder](#)
- [How to use / update the line list](#)
- [How to use outbreak documents & resources](#)

Important Reminder

Please do not use previously printed or saved outbreak forms. All documents within the SharePoint folder are the most current and up-to-date versions and should be used moving forward.

NEW! Changes to Extreme Weather Alert Process

Lakelands Public Health is updating how we send extreme weather alerts to our community partners. We will be transitioning from program-specific distribution lists to an opt-in email distribution list.

If you would like to continue receiving extreme weather alerts, please complete the survey to sign up: [Extreme Temperature and AQ Emails - Lakelands Opt-in Form](#).



Immunization Updates

Spring Vaccine Campaign

The list below outlines who is eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine dose in the Spring 2026.

- Individuals 65 years and older
- All adult residents of long-term care homes and other congregate living settings for seniors
- Individuals 55 years and older who identify as First Nations, Inuit, or Metis and their non-Indigenous household members who are 55 years and older
- Individuals 6 months of age and older who are moderately to severely immunocompromised (due to specific underlying condition or treatment)

Further information can be found here: [Health Care Provider Fact Sheet: 2025/26 COVID-19 Vaccine Program.](#)

COVID-19 vaccine may be ordered by visiting [Vaccine Order Form - Lakelands Public Health](#) or completing and faxing the Seasonal Vaccine Order Form to 905-885-5352.

Important! The Peterborough fax number of 705-743-2897 is no longer active.

Please update your records with the new vaccine fax number of 905-885-5352.

Orders faxed to the old Peterborough fax number will not be received and processed.

COVAX Decommissioning

The new Panorama Guided Workflow (PGW) will go live soon and replace COVAX. It will be used to record COVID-19 doses administered and manage COVID-19 vaccine inventory. Training and supporting materials will be provided by the Ministry.

Where to direct questions:

ONEID-related questions: contact the Ontario Health Digital Services Support Line at 1-866-250-1554.

Panorama Guided Workflow (PGW): contact PanoramaGuidedWorkflow@ontario.ca

Annual Vaccine Fridge Inspections

If you have not had a visit by a nurse yet, you will be contacted to arrange for your annual vaccine fridge inspection soon. If Health Unit staff are unable to reach you by phone, they will present unannounced to complete the inspection.

Public Health Ontario Updates

New Resources Available

[IPAC Checklist for Animal Presence in Health Care Settings](#)

- IPAC recommendations for having therapy animals and pets in health care settings. The information in this checklist is intended to support your organization create policies and practices to mitigate the risk of animal visitation in any health care setting.



[Resources for Trainers: IPAC for Health Care Workers](#)

- This ready-to-use package includes a trainer guide, participant handbook, three presentation slide decks, practice activities, and a certificate of completion to support standardized IPAC training across health care settings.

[Infection Prevention and Control Organizational Risk Assessment for Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes](#)

- Step-by-step framework to support LTC/RHs in conducting ORAs. It is recommended to conduct an IPAC ORA at least once a year or more often as needed.

[Organizational Risk Assessment for Clinical Office Practice: Fillable Form](#)

- Helps to identify risks for transmission of infection in LTC and RH settings, analyze, and develop a plan.

Community of Practice and Webinars

1. **PHO Rounds: Organizational Risk Assessment (ORA) For Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes** on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, from 12:00pm to 1:00pm EST.

[Webinar Registration](#)

2. Join one of the following CoPs for the launch of the new **Long-Term Care Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC) IPAC Best Practice** document:

May 6th from 1:00pm -2:00pm EST

[CoP Registration](#)

May 14th from 1:00pm -2:00pm EST

[CoP Registration](#)

3. **IPAC Canada - Leading and Lagging Your Way to Hand Hygiene Improvement**

- May 7th from 1:00pm -2:00pm EST
 - [Webinar Registration](#)
 - 1 IPU will be provided by the Certification Board of Infection Control

Long-Term Care Drop-In Coaching Sessions with PHO

- May 29th from 11:00am -12:00pm EST
- June 19th from 11:00am -12:00pm EST
 - [Zoom Invite](#)

Meeting ID:

827 4754 2224

Passcode: 015387

Training Opportunities

Queen's University's Fall 2026 Online IPAC Professional Development Course

Fall 2026 registration is now open: [Infection Prevention & Control Course](#)

- Course Fee: \$1599 CAD
- **Early Bird Rate:** \$1499 CAD - Register before April 30, 2026!
- **Group Discount:** Save 10% by registering a group of learners on a single invoice. Please contact queensic@queensu.ca for more details.

World Hand Hygiene Day – May 5, 2026



Led by the World Health Organization, *World Hand Hygiene Day* highlights the critical role of hand hygiene in preventing health care-associated infections. This year marks 18 years of global efforts to improve resident safety through effective IPAC practices.

This year's campaign focuses on:

- Promote optimal hand hygiene practices
- Promote inclusion of hand hygiene in IPAC programs
- Raise awareness of hand hygiene importance
- Encourage action

Get Involved! Make hand hygiene fun by hosting an ABHR decorating activity! Staff and residents can participate individually or in teams to decorate bottles or dispensers, with participants entered into a draw for a small prize.

Explore campaign tools, posters and resources to support [World Hand Hygiene Day 2026](#) at your facility.

Contact Information

	Legacy HKPR	Legacy PPH
IPAC Hub	ipachub@lakelandsph.ca	
Outbreak Reporting	<p>During business hours: outbreaks@lakelandsph.ca 1-866-888-4577 ext. 1232</p> <p>Outside of business hours: 1-888-255-7839</p>	<p>During business hours: Outbreak Form or email infectiousdiseases@lakelandsph.ca 1-866-888-4577 ext. 1232</p> <p>Outside of business hours: 705-760-8127</p>
Vaccine Information	immunization@lakelandsph.ca	immunizationrecords@lakelandsph.ca