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**GRAPHIC:** Clara – Graphics – Mailchimp Graphics – Coronavirus 5.jpg

**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 Update - April 17, 2020



ODHA hopes this email update finds you safe and healthy as we all continue to follow government guidance to stay home. Below are important COVID-19 highlights from this week.

### **Provincial update**

The Ontario government has extended the Declaration of Emergency under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act for a further 28 days. Passed during a special sitting of the Ontario legislature and with the full cooperation of all parties, the Declaration of Emergency has been extended until May 12. The legislature also passed the *Coronavirus (COVID-19) Support and Protection Act* to amend the *Education Act*, *Planning Act*, *Development Charges Act*, *Police Services Act* and the *Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Act*. This new legislation addresses the concerns of education and municipal stakeholders during this COVID-19 emergency. Read the full announcement [here](#).

### **Fraudulent N95 respirator alert**

Health Canada has received reports about fraudulent and uncertified N95 respirators that falsely claim to protect consumers against COVID-19 are being illegally sold to consumers online and in some stores. Fraudulent or unauthorized N95 masks may not meet the same performance measures required by the NIOSH N95 standard and, as a result, may not properly protect consumers from COVID-19. Read the full alert [here](#).

### **Hand sanitizer advisory**

Health Canada is temporarily authorizing the use of technical-grade ethanol for use in hand sanitizer products. Proper hygiene and disinfection is essential during the COVID-19 outbreak to reduce the risk of infection. If soap and water are not available, a hand sanitizer, with at least 60% alcohol, that has been approved by Health Canada should

be used. There are cautions associated with the use of hand sanitizers containing technical-grade ethanol. Canadians are advised to always follow the label directions when using alcohol-based hand sanitizers. For a full list of hand sanitizers meeting Health Canada's requirements [click here](#). To view the full advisory, [click here](#).

*To increase accessibility, COVID-19 email communications will be posted on the [COVID-19 update page](#) on the ODHA website.*