



PUBLIC HEALTH AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Infectious Diseases and Sexual Health (IDS)

Region of Waterloo

Date: MONDAY MARCH 9, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: Waterloo Catholic District School Board; Waterloo Region District School Board School, Conseil Scolaire Viamonde Schools in Waterloo Region, and Conseil Scolaire Catholique MonAvenir in Waterloo Region Administrators and Administrative Staff

From: David Aoki, Manager, Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Acting Medical Officer of Health

Subject: Postponement of Immunization of School Pupil's Act activities

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo Public Health Department will be postponing its annual enforcement of the Immunization of School Pupil's Act (RSO 1990) and its associated activities for the 2019-2020 school year.

Public Health has been working closely with parents and health care providers over the last few months to ensure student immunization information is current. Given the evolving public health COVID-19 situation, resources are needed to continue to effectively respond and manage the increasing demands.

Public Health has decided to postpone enforcement to dedicate resources to working on managing the coronavirus response and ensuring that staff are available to respond to the public's questions regarding coronavirus.

Public Health will implement actions over the summer to ensure all students who would have been suspended have an opportunity to become up-to-date before the start of the 2020-2021 school year. More information about this process will be communicated to school board, staff, parents, students before the end of the school year.

What does this mean for school boards and schools?

Elementary suspension was scheduled to take place Wednesday March 25, 2020, and secondary suspension was to occur April 29, 2020. Public Health will not be sending principals suspension orders for the elementary and secondary students as previously planned. A memo to parents will be provided shortly with a request for Principals to distribute to their student and parent communities.

Thank you for all the work you do annually on behalf of Public Health to help parents and students navigate the enforcement of the Immunization of School Pupil's Act.

