March 5, 2020

Dear Parents,

We are writing to provide you with another update from Toronto Public Health with regards to the coronavirus (COVID-19).

We understand that new COVID-19 cases may make families feel uneasy and would like to reassure you that the risk of becoming infected with coronavirus in Canada is still considered low.

As of March 5, Toronto Public Health is monitoring nine positive cases of coronavirus. To date, there have been two other confirmed cases reported in Toronto.

If your child is displaying symptoms of illness such as a fever, difficulty breathing or sore throat, we ask that they remain home until they are feeling well, as per our Illness Policy.

CDI will continue to monitor and follow the direction of the Toronto’s Medical Officer of Health (MOH). We recommend that all families reference the Toronto Public Health website for accurate information and current situation updates: https://www.toronto.ca/coronavirus/

Toronto Public Health recommends the following prevention measures:

1. Protect yourself as you would against Influenza (the common flu).
2. Be vigilant with hand washing, use hand sanitizer if hand washing is not available.
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
4. Avoid close contact with people who are ill.
5. Stay home when you are ill.
6. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then immediately throw the tissue in the garbage and wash your hands.
7. If you don’t have a tissue, sneeze or cough into your sleeve or arm.
8. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

The MOH’s overall advice remains the same: if you are not sick enough to require hospitalization to recover from a respiratory illness, we recommend staying home with plenty of rest and fluids to let your body recover. This is standard care for this type of illness.

Below, you will find an updated letter from Toronto’s Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Eileen de Villa, with the latest information:
Letter from Medical Officer of Health

If you wish more information about Coronavirus, please refer to the following sites:

1. Ontario Ministry of Health (http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/)
2. Public Health Ontario (https://www.publichealhtontario.ca/)
3. Toronto Health and Wellness (https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/)