



[Opioid toxicity could result in up to 2,300 deaths every 3 months in Canada in 2023](#)

- Special Advisory Committee on the Epidemic of Opioid Overdoses has released its latest surveillance data on opioid and stimulant-related harms in Canada.
- 7,328 people (average of 20 per day) died of an opioid overdose in Canada in 2022.
- This represents 9% fewer deaths than in 2021.
- PHAC also published new modelling projections on opioid-related deaths for 2023.
- See also: [Federal actions on opioids to date](#).

[Three more tick-borne illnesses added to Diseases of Public Health Significance](#)

- Adding *anaplasmosis*, *babesiosis*, and *Powassan virus* to the list of Diseases of Public Health Significance (DoPHS) comes after reports of emerging tick-borne diseases and an increase in blacklegged tick populations across Ontario.
- DoPHS and their etiologic agents are reportable to Public Health as per Ontario Regulation 135/18 under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

[Reminder about reporting chickenpox \(varicella\) cases to Public Health](#)

- GBPH continues to receive reports of suspected chickenpox infections.
- To meet confirmed case definition, case must have clinical evidence of illness and laboratory confirmation (preferably isolation or detection of VZV from an appropriate clinical specimen, usually a swab of vesicle or lesion fluid).
- Information on appropriate tests for chickenpox is available on [PHO's website](#).
- Testing helps enable better surveillance of chickenpox within our communities.

A WORD ABOUT COVID-19

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) has released interim guidance on the use of bivalent Omicron-containing COVID-19 vaccines for the primary series. Read the full June 9, 2023, statement at this link: [Report Link](#).

Resources for Health Care Professionals

- CCDR article, May 2023, [Infections and antimicrobial resistance in hospitals](#).
- CCDR article, May 2023, [COVID-19 farm outbreaks in Ontario, 2020](#).
- CCDR article, May 2023, [SARS-CoV-2 pandemic severity in Canada and peer nations](#)

Grey Bruce Public Health Media Releases: June

- June 30, 2023 - [Air Quality Health Index forecasted to remain at Moderate for Grey-Bruce into Saturday](#)
- June 29, 2023 - [Public Health advising people to enjoy wildlife from a distance](#)
- June 27, 2023 - [GBPH advising residents of Special Air Quality Statement for Grey-Bruce](#)
- June 23, 2023 - [GBPH issues opioid alert following series of drug poisonings](#)
- June 21, 2023 - [GBPH holding clinics to help students get up to date on routine vaccines](#)
- June 12, 2023 - [Air Quality Health Index for Grey-Bruce forecasted to remain at Low Risk into Tuesday](#)
- June 9, 2023: [GBPH announces end of Special Air Quality Statement for Grey-Bruce](#)
- June 8, 2023: [GBPH advises of High-Risk Air Quality Health Index Forecast](#)
- June 6, 2023: [GBPH advises residents to take steps to protect their health during Special Air Quality Statement](#)
- June 1, 2023: [Updated Lyme Disease Map includes new estimated risk areas in Grey-Bruce](#)