



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
February 2, 2023

Cold Weather Alert

HAMILTON, ON – The Medical Officer of Health for the City of Hamilton is issuing a Cold Weather Alert effective **overnight**. A Cold Weather Alert is issued when current or anticipated weather conditions are at or below a temperature of -15C or wind chill of -20.

This alert will remain in effect until a cancellation notice is issued.

Exposure to cold weather can be harmful to your health. Wind always makes it feel colder and increases the risk of frostbite and hypothermia. During extreme cold weather conditions, please call, visit, or check on vulnerable family, friends, and neighbours.

The City of Hamilton has notified community agencies who work with vulnerable houseless populations. Each of those agencies will implement their policies and procedures with regards to cold weather.

During a Cold Alert, [select City of Hamilton Recreation Centres](#) and [Hamilton Public Library locations](#) are available as community warming centres for those who need to keep warm during regular business hours.

Ongoing programs and resources in the community including [emergency shelters](#), and [drop-in locations](#) are available for vulnerable houseless community members who need to keep warm. Drop-in programs include:

- [The Hub](#) (78 Vine Street) – drop-in 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. (year-round) and overnight drop-in hours 10 p.m. to 10 a.m. (until March 31, 2023) daily.
- [Hamilton Regional Indian Centre](#) (407 King Street W) – Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- [YWCA Carol Anne's Place](#) (75 MacNab Street) – overnight drop in 10 p.m. to 9 a.m. daily for women and non-binary individuals.
- Mission Services [Willow's Place](#) (196 Wentworth Street N) – drop-in from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. daily for women.

- [Wesley Day Centre](#) (52 Catharine Street N) – Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- [Living Rock Youth Resources](#) (30 Wilson Street) – daily drop-in 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for youth.

Learn more about the Community Cold Response and access a complete list of ongoing community resources serving people experiencing homelessness including emergency shelters, drop-ins and warming place locations by visiting www.hamilton.ca/cold.

If you observe someone you feel is in imminent danger, please contact emergency services by calling 9-1-1.

The best place for you during a Cold Alert is indoors. If you must be outside:

- Dress in layers of clothing. Keep inner layers dry. Wet clothing increases the risk of cold injury.
- Protect your face, ears and hands with a scarf, hat, and gloves.
- To protect your feet, socks must be dry. Wool is a good material to keep your feet dry.
- Drink warm fluids but avoid caffeine and alcohol.
- Avoid strenuous exercise.

Additional Resources

For information about the Community Cold Response, community resources, warming centres & shelters, and signs of cold-related illness visit www.hamilton.ca/cold.

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