Grey County
Pandemic Planning Update

Presented to Grey County Council
February 13, 2020
2005 - Pandemic Influenza Exercise Scenario

- Meaford resolution proposes County to develop planning template to share with local municipalities
- Worked with a consultant to develop the guidelines and template
- Created large staff working group to complete the planning process according to the templates developed
- Met periodically with external stakeholder working group co-led by Grey County and the Grey Bruce Health Unit to promote planning for issues beyond the County’s responsibility
Objective #1:

To preserve critical services provided by County operations in the event of a pandemic

- Long Term Care
- Paramedic Services
- Transportation Services
- Social Services
- Housing
Objective #2:

To describe what the response to a pandemic emergency looks like versus other emergencies, under the Grey County Emergency Management Plan

- Top down instead of Bottom up
- Public Health Emergency
- Widespread
- Potential scale of disruption
Activation of Plan

Once a pandemic is imminent:

1) Grey Bruce Medical Officer of Health notifies Grey & Bruce Wardens

2) Depending on:
   - Extend of the disruption locally, and
   - Virulence of the virus

Grey County Emergency Control Group will meet to coordinate a response when it is deemed appropriate.
Review and Updating of Grey County Pandemic Plan

• Currently operating according to plan where appropriate
  • “influenza” & related references (e.g. Tamiflu) irrelevant
  • It is not yet known if coronavirus will follow a flu pandemic pattern

• Where no appropriate guidance exists in Plan, operating according to best practices recommended by Medical Officer of Health and other relevant guidance documents and authorities
County Departmental Pandemic Planning Activities

• Identify all services
• Categorize each as essential or non-essential services
  • Identify positions responsible to perform each service/duty
  • hours/day and number of staff
• Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for tasks supporting essential services
• Identify staff able to work remotely
• Identify staff eligible for redeployment
  • Cross-training
County Departmental Pandemic/Epidemic Planning Activities (continued)

- Short-term succession management planning in place for daily absences
- Review alternate meeting methods to face-to-face where possible
- Review supply chains
  - Seek alternate supplies of materials & services
  - Stock up on critical supplies if appropriate & possible
- Review and revise strategies to limit exposure to staff and visitors
Sharing of Information & Networking with External Stakeholders

- March 5, 2020 – external stakeholder meeting including various community partners and local municipalities, co-led by Grey County & Grey Bruce Health Unit
  - Long Term Care & partners
  - Social Services & partners
  - Housing & partners
  - Paramedic Services & partners
  - Municipal Emergency Management staff*
  - Municipal Human Resources staff

*Plan has been shared with all municipalities again this week in case they wish to update using the templates
Thank you!

For more information about Grey County’s emergency and pandemic planning activities, please contact:
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