

One million Masks for Front-line Staff in Ontario West ***Delivered using new virtual warehouse***

April 10, 2020 – One million surgical (level 2) masks were delivered to the regional Hub along with gowns and gloves as part of the ongoing efforts to adequately supply front-line staff with personal protective equipment (PPE) in the West region. The supplies were part of the first proactive provincial PPE allocation and will be redistributed by the Ontario Health West COVID-19 Regional Allocation Committee (RAC) to local supply hubs to meet critical supply needs.

Using data from the virtual warehouse model, the Regional COVID-19 Portal was created with our supply chain partners in the West region to effectively receive and distribute PPE supplies. Updated daily, partners can use the site to view regional PPE conservation strategies and stock status, and order pandemic supplies, like masks or COVID-19 swab tests.

To urgently request PPE from our virtual warehouse, providers (long-term care, retirement homes, hospitals, EMS, primary care, indigenous health centres, group homes, residential hospice/palliative care, etc.) can follow the steps online. Urgent supply issues will be prioritized using an allocation methodology created by the Regional Allocation Committee and in accordance with the ethical framework provided by the Ministry of Health.

Further information can be found [here](#).

There are 12 local hubs in Ontario West that include supply chain leaders from Erie St. Clair, South West, Waterloo Wellington and Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant. Each hub works together to ensure staff and patients are adequately supplied during the COVID-19 pandemic.