

September 2, 2020

Town of Essex
33 Talbot Street South
Essex, Ontario
N8M 1A8

Attention: Larry Snively, Mayor

Re: Request for Raw Data on Positive COVID-19 Cases in Essex County

Dear Mayor Snively:

Thank you for your correspondence dated July 23, 2020 requesting raw data on positive COVID-19 cases in Essex County.

The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) is committed to providing accurate and timely data on positive COVID-19 cases in Windsor and Essex County. Our website and landing page <https://www.wechu.org/cv/local-updates> is updated daily and provides key information on COVID-19 cases in the region. In addition, our weekly epidemiological summary provides more in-depth analysis on all cases including GIS maps of cases in the region and a weekly epidemiological summary by municipality.

The WECHU has been publically sharing the weekly epidemiological summary since the beginning of the pandemic to keep the community informed about our local situation. Our team of epidemiologists continue to support data sharing efforts with the community without compromising the integrity of the data, while at the same time respecting the privacy and confidentiality of individuals positive for COVID-19.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, our team has worked closely with all the local CAOs of the region and continue to meet regularly to answer any questions and provide relevant communications. Our commitment is to share data that does not compromise the privacy of the individuals, or create a false sense of security for residents or alarm others. If there are specific questions the municipality is trying to answer, we can provide our expert opinion on how best to interpret public health data for informed decision making.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Dr. Wajid Ahmed, MBBS, MAS, MSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health

Theresa Marentette
Chief Executive Officer and Chief Nursing Officer