

Yesterday, an employee of a Chatham-Kent workplace was reported to be positive for COVID-19. The workplace notified their staff immediately and closed the building.

CK Public Health has received a number of questions about why this case was not made public and why the number of local cases was not adjusted.

“The employee is not a resident of Chatham-Kent, and therefore, the case is not reflected in our local numbers,” explained Dr. Colby.

In Ontario, confirmed positive test results are sent to the local health unit where the individual lives.

“When we are notified about a positive test result, we immediately begin the contact tracing process for that case, making sure that anyone in Chatham-Kent who has come into close contact with the individual is notified and directed to self-isolate for 14 days” says Colby. “Any time a Chatham-Kent resident tests positive for COVID-19, that information is shared with the public by CK Public Health.

“Once contact tracing begins, we begin the process of informing the community. At this point, with total confirmed cases still low, we are able to develop a media release to accompany each confirmed case,” says Caress Lee Carpenter, Public Relations Officer for the organization. The media release is shared following our usual processes. The information is shared widely on each of our social media platforms, and immediate updates are made to our [CK Public Health COVID-19 webpage](#)”

Anyone with additional questions related to COVID-19 are asked to call the intake line at 519.355.1071 EXT 1900 or email covid19@chatham-kent.ca.

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