

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COVID-19

HERE IS A LOOK AT WHAT CORONAVIRUS IS AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO SAFEGUARD YOURSELF, WRITES MICHAEL CHONG



MICHAEL CHONG
Column

has the virus. Symptoms usually develop within 14 days of infection. Symptoms of COVID-19 include a cough, a fever and shortness of breath. There are several ways you can better protect yourself and others:

- Wash your hands frequently using soap and water for at least 20 seconds (if soap and water aren't available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizers),
- cough or sneeze into a tissue (or flexed elbow) and discard the tissue in the trash,
- avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands,
- avoid close contact with people who are sick, sneezing or coughing,
- stay home when you are sick, and

• clean and disinfect surfaces people frequently touch. If you believe you have contracted novel coronavirus, you should contact one of the following:

- your doctor,
- Halton Region Public Health at 311, or
- Telehealth Ontario at (866) 797-0000.

For more information on coronavirus, consult the following government sources:

- Public Health Agency of Canada (general information and travel advice) at www.canada.ca/coronavirus or at (833) 784-4397 or at phac.info.aspc@canada.ca
- Telehealth Ontario (free, confidential medical advice from a registered nurse, 24/7) at (866) 797-0000
- Halton Region Public Health at 311

As always, you can contact me at (905) 702 2597.

Michael Chong is the MP for Wellington-Halton Hills.

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Q How might Covid-19 affect closings for a new construction home?



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A In an agreement of Purchase and Sale for a new construction home, there is a Taron Addendum called a Statement of Critical Dates. There is typically a First Tentative Occupancy Date, a second Tentative Occupancy Date, and a Firm Occupancy Date. If the Vendor cannot complete construction and be ready for the first date, then as long as they give proper notice, they can extend the date two times without being liable for Delayed Closing Compensation.

There is also a provision for extending the dates due to "Unavoidable Delay." This is defined as "an event which delays Occupancy which is a strike, fire, explosion, flood, act of God, civil insurrection, act of war, act of terrorism, or pandemic, plus any period of delay directly caused by the event, which are beyond the reasonable control of the Vendor and are not caused or contributed to by the fault of the Vendor." The Covid-19 is a pandemic, so delays as a result of this would allow the Vendor to extend the closing dates. If the Vendor does need to extend closing for this reason, they will need to send a notice to all Purchasers.

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