

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – September 30, 2022

Public Health Ontario’s Weekly COVID-19 Summary

Public Health Ontario (PHO) warns us to interpret these trends with caution because they are not entirely accurate. COVID-19 cases, contacts, and outbreaks are only being managed in high-risk populations and settings. There is also a delay in reporting, especially with severe outcomes and deaths.

The number of reported cases in Ontario was 8,050 this week compared to 7,673 last week. They predict that the number of cases will continue to increase over the next two weeks. Compared to last week, case rates were similar or higher in 6 of Ontario’s 7 regions and 28 of 34 public health units.

This week, there were 359 reported hospital admissions (down from 347 last week) and 45 reported deaths (down from 65 last week). The total number of outbreaks in high-risk settings has also gone up from 138 last week to 159 this week. In the past week, the number of outbreaks in group home/supportive housing outbreaks nearly doubled (from 18 to 30 outbreaks). However, cases went down in all high-risk settings except for hospitals (16% increase) and group home/supportive housing (10% increase).

Source:

1. https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/Documents/nCoV/epi/covid-19-weekly-epi-summary-report.pdf?sc_lang=en

Province Adding New Paediatric Pfizer Vaccine for Infants and Children

The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is now available for infants and children aged six months to under five years, including those who are immunocompromised. Be sure to wait eight weeks between doses. Mixing Pfizer and Moderna vaccines for your infant or child’s primary series doses is not recommended. Your child should receive the same product for all three doses.

Source:

1. <https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1002315/ontarians-18-eligible-for-bivalent-booster-starting-tomorrow>

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic for Children with Disabilities and Their Siblings

If one of your children has a disability that needs specialized accommodations to get vaccinated, they can get the 1st dose of the paediatric Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine at a clinic

especially for them! If one of their siblings does not have a disability, they can get their 1st dose too!

Date: Sunday, October 2nd

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (by appointment only)

Location: 2 Surrey Place, Toronto, ON M5S 2C2

Eligibility Criteria:

- someone with a disability OR their sibling
- at least six months old and younger than 5 years old at the time of the appointment.

How to book:

- Surrey Place East clients: contact your clinician
- For all others:

Email: covid@surreyplace.ca OR call and leave a voicemail at 416-925-5141 ex. 4444

If your child is hearing or seeing impaired, please email phillip.woodward@surreyplace.ca so they can make sure that they have the appropriate volunteers at the clinic.

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SickKids COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics

SickKids Hospital is hosting weekly COVID-19 vaccine clinics for any infant/child aged six months to under five years who requires accommodations due to medical complexity, developmental disorder, mobility challenges, communication, behavioural and other specialized needs (including significant needle phobia).

This clinic will happen each Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. More dates and times are expected to become available soon.

It's by appointment only. To make an appointment, you need to be referred through your doctor. For any questions regarding patient referrals, contact mobile.vaccination@sickkids.ca.

Do you have questions or concerns about the COVID-19 vaccine for children? Book an appointment with the SickKids COVID-19 Vaccine Consult Service. Visit sickkids.ca/vaccineconsult to book an appointment!

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Ontario's COVID-19 Vaccine booking portal:

Those eligible for a vaccine can book here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/>.

Or by phone at: 1-833-943-3900.

For general information about vaccines, call: 1-888-999-6488.

In Toronto? Here are two transportation options to go to your vaccine appointment:

1. The Ontario Community Support Association's Accessible Drive-to-Vaccines program provides door-to-door rides to vaccination sites for people with disabilities, including seniors with mobility issues. You must have a vaccination appointment booked. You need to request a ride at least 48 hours before the appointment. To book, call 211 or click [here](#) to request an appointment online.

2. Wheel-Trans is committed to providing vaccine rides to the elderly and people with disabilities in Toronto. Wheel-Trans is offering individual rides to City-run mass vaccination sites, pharmacies, doctor's offices, and clinics that are giving out vaccines. Customers may be joined by one Support Person on their Wheel-Trans ride.

You may be eligible for Wheel-Trans service if your disability prevents you from using the TTC's conventional transit for all or part of their trip.

If you are not yet a Wheel-Trans customer, and you think you may qualify for Wheel-Trans service, you are invited to apply by calling Wheel-Trans Customer Service at 416-393-4111, Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Existing Wheel-Trans customers can book their rides to and from their vaccine appointments by calling Wheel-Trans Reservations at 416-393-4222, seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. or through the Wheel-Trans Self-Booking Website. Access the website by clicking here: <https://mywheel-trans.ttc.ca/SelfBooking2020/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fSelfBooking2020>.

Upcoming Events:

North Yorkers

The Communication Enrichment Class (ongoing)

The class is running virtually on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1 p.m. You can find the online blog at <https://nydpcec.wordpress.com/> where class activities will be posted before each class. If you or someone you know has a communication disability and may be interested in participating in the class, please contact Jessica, our Manager of Client Services via email at jessica.nydp@gmail.com.

March of Dimes

One to One Peer Support Program

The One to One Peer Support program is still running. No one understands quite like somebody who has lived the same experience. Our Peer Support program pairs caregivers with peers who are also experienced in caregiving and can offer practical advice and support by phone or a video chat. Contact Angie Clark by email at aclark@marchofdimes.ca or call 1-905-301-8114 for more information or to get connected.

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If you or someone you know uses Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), and requires resources related to COVID-19, please contact Jessica (jessica.nydp@gmail.com) and she can assist you in accessing and/or creating various communication tools.

If you think you may be experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, take the self-assessment at www.ontario.ca/coronavirus. Follow all directions from your medical provider or your local health unit at the following phone numbers:

Telehealth Ontario: 1-866-797-0000

Toronto Public Health: 416-338-7600

Peel Public Health: 905-799-7700

Durham Region Health Department: 905-668-7711

York Region Public Health: 1-877-464-9675

Please refer to previous updates as lots of important information has been provided that may still be relevant. If you have any questions or require more information on how you can protect yourself and those around you from the COVID-19 virus, please contact our Senior Manager of Client Services/Lead AAC Facilitator Jessica at 416-222-4448 or jessica.nydp@gmail.com.