

**Coronavirus: COVID-19**  
**Current Update – October 18, 2021**

As of October 18th, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,680,191 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 595,235 cases and Toronto has 180,087 cases.

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**Ontario logs 373 new COVID-19 cases**

Today, there are 373 new cases of COVID-19 in Ontario. This comes after 486 cases on Saturday and 443 cases on Sunday. The seven-day average is 416. The positivity rate is 1.8%.

Of these 373 new infections, 265 people are either unvaccinated, partially vaccinated or have an unknown vaccination status. The remaining 108 people are fully vaccinated.

Today's cases were found in: Peel Region (71), Toronto (62), Ottawa (36), and Hamilton (26). Most Ontario health units reported fewer than 10 COVID-19 cases.

There are 168 patients in an Intensive Care Unit. Vaccination data for hospitalized patients is not available on Mondays due to a lack of reporting over the weekend.

In Ontario, 12,399 vaccine doses were given in the last 24 hours. Over 10.8 million people in Ontario are fully vaccinated, which is 87.4% of the population that is eligible for a vaccine. Meanwhile, 83.1% of people in Ontario who are eligible for a vaccine have had at least one dose.

Sources:

1. <https://covid19tracker.ca/index.html>
2. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-logs-373-new-covid-19-cases-as-province-launches-vaccine-qr-code-1.5627321>

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**All Ontario residents can now download their COVID-19 vaccine certificate QR code, and answering some frequent questions**

All Ontario residents who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 can now download or print their enhanced vaccine certificate and unique QR code.

The QR code contains only essential information and does not pass along health card numbers or personal information. You must still show a piece of ID alongside the QR code.



Download your enhanced vaccine certificate here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/get-proof/>

### **What if I can't access the Ontario Vaccine Portal?**

- Anyone who can't access the portal, including those with only an Ontario red-and-white health card, can call the provincial vaccine contact centre at 1-833-943-3900 to have their enhanced vaccine certificate emailed or mailed to them.
- People without an Ontario health card can contact their public health unit to have their identity verified and get a COVID ID. Once they get the ID, they can call the phone number above.
- If someone does not have access to a printer, they can get a copy printed for free at a local library or at a Service Ontario location.
- Ontario residents who received their first or second dose out of the province can contact their public health unit to record their information and receive an Ontario receipt.

### **Does the enhanced certificate work for people with only one vaccine dose?**

- The QR code when scanned will not generate approval or a checkmark if the individual is not yet fully vaccinated.

### **Will I be able to use the QR code for medical exemptions?**

- The province says work is underway to integrate medical and clinical exemptions into vaccine certificates with QR codes.
- Currently, people who cannot take the vaccine due to medical reasons can present a note from a medical doctor or registered nurse.

### **Can I still use the vaccine receipt I have been using?**

- Yes, people can continue to use their current vaccine receipt if they prefer that. Businesses are required to accept that as proof of vaccination.
- However, people can no longer download these receipts off the province's online portal.

Sources:

1. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/all-ontario-residents-can-now-download-their-covid-19-vaccine-certificate-qr-code-1.5627105>
2. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/how-to-get-your-ontario-vaccine-certificate-qr-code-1.5624531>

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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.

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### **In Toronto? Here's a safe transportation option to go to your vaccine appointment:**

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 1pm. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:jessica.nydp@gmail.com).