

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – October 25, 2021

As of October 25th, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,698,436 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 597,841 cases and Toronto has 180,485 cases.

Ontario reports 326 new COVID-19 cases

Today, there are 326 new cases of COVID-19 in Ontario. This comes after 373 cases were reported on Saturday and 370 cases on Sunday. The seven-day average is 372, down from 416 at this time last week. The positivity rate is 1.6%.

Of these 326 new infections, 231 people are either unvaccinated, partially vaccinated or have an unknown vaccination status. The remaining 95 people are fully vaccinated.

Today's cases were found in: Toronto (39), Peel Region (33), and York Region (31). All other health units reported fewer than 30 COVID-19 cases in Ontario.

According to the province, there are 167 COVID-19 patients in hospital, including 36 people who are fully vaccinated and 131 people who are either not fully vaccinated or have an unknown vaccination status.

In Ontario, 9,697 vaccine doses were given in the last 24 hours. Over 10.9 million people in Ontario are fully vaccinated, which is 87.8% of the population that is eligible for a vaccine. Meanwhile, 83.8% 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-reports-326-new-cases-of-covid-19-no-new-deaths-1.5636964>

Ontario reveals plan to lift all COVID-19 restrictions by March next year

The Ontario government shared its plan to slowly lift COVID-19 public health restrictions on Friday. As of today, the province has lifted capacity limits in restaurants, fitness centres, casinos and several other non-essential indoor settings that require proof of vaccination. Businesses like salons and barber shops can now lift capacity limits but only if they opt-in to the vaccination certificate program.

Premier Doug Ford stated: "We're sticking with what's worked for our province...This is a cautious plan. It slowly lifts public health measures over time, allowing us to monitor any impacts on our hospitals and in our communities. It provides Ontarians and businesses with the certainty they need to make the plans of their own."

Capacity limits will continue to lift in high-risk settings in the following months.

The long-term plan to manage the spread of COVID-19 will continue into January 2022 with the province lifting vaccine certificate requirements in low-risk settings.

On January 17, restaurants, sporting facilities and casinos will no longer need to check vaccination statuses.

On March 28 and onwards, all remaining public health and workplace safety measures for businesses and organizations will lift, including the requirement to wear a mask indoors.

However, it is important to note that these plans rely on continuously low COVID-19 cases in the province, low transmission rates, low hospital and ICU admissions, low positivity rates, and high vaccination rates.

"While we are optimistic about the future, the province will continue to monitor the situation very closely, and we will respond quickly to protect Ontarians health should the need arise"

Source:

1. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-reveals-plan-to-lift-all-covid-19-restrictions-by-march-next-year-1.5633938>

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'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.

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.

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.