

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – September 21, 2021

As of September 21st, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,582,455 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 580,768 cases and Toronto has 177,033 cases.

Ontario reports another drop in new COVID-19 cases with 574 infections logged

Today, there are 574 new cases of COVID-19 in Ontario. The seven-day average is 710, down from 716 at this time last week. The positivity rate is 2.4%.

Of these 574 new infections, 434 people are not unvaccinated, partially vaccinated or have an unknown vaccination status. The remaining 140 people are fully vaccinated.

Today's cases were mainly found in: Toronto (104), Peel Region (80), Ottawa (58), York Region (44), Niagara Region (39), Windsor-Essex (34), and Halton Region (31).

According to the province, there are 330 COVID-19 patients in hospital, including 27 people who are fully vaccinated and 303 people who are either not fully vaccinated or have an unknown vaccination status. There are 179 patients in an Intensive Care Unit. Among ICU patients, 170 patients are not fully vaccinated or have an unknown vaccination status, and 9 are fully vaccinated.

In Ontario, 30,072 vaccine doses were given in the last 24 hours. Over 10.3 million people in Ontario are fully vaccinated, which is 79.8% of the population that is eligible for a vaccine. Meanwhile, 85.8% of people in Ontario who are eligible for a vaccine have had at least one dose.

Tomorrow, the province will be starting the vaccine certificate program, requiring you to show proof of vaccination when entering non-essential businesses.

Sources:

1. <https://covid19tracker.ca/index.html>
2. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-reports-another-drop-in-new-covid-19-cases-with-574-infections-logged-1.5594093>

Pfizer-BioNTech says COVID-19 vaccine is safe and protective for kids aged 5-11, will seek authorization

On Monday, Pfizer-BioNTech said that their COVID-19 vaccine had a great immune response for children aged 5-11 in clinical trials. As soon as they are able to, they will be asking for

authorization to use the vaccine for this age group in Canada, the United States, Europe, and across the globe.

The company stated that in the trials, the vaccine created immunity for this age range and had the same safety as for 16–25-year-olds. The doses for young children will likely be smaller than what adults have received.

Getting kids vaccinated would help protect public health and minimize the wave of cases that we are seeing after the reopening of schools. For example, in the United States since July, pediatric COVID-19 cases have risen 240%.

Pfizer-BioNTech has “been working closely with Health Canada and submitting to them new data regarding this vaccine when it becomes available... share[ing] the urgency to provide the data that could help support the decision by regulatory authorities to make the vaccine available to school-aged children as early as possible.”

Health Canada has said that vaccine manufacturers are conducting and planning studies for adolescents and younger children, expecting manufacturers to provide this data in the coming months. No submissions for approval have been presented as of today.

Source:

1. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/health/pfizer-biontech-covid19-us-vaccine-children-1.6182150>

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.