

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – January 18, 2021

As of January 18th, 2021, Canada has a total of 712, 831 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario itself has 240, 364 cases with Toronto having 76, 467 cases.

Ontario reports 2, 578 new infections

The province reported a considerable drop in new COVID-19 cases and deaths today, which could partially be due to a fall in testing rates. There were 2, 578 new cases of COVID-19 and 24 new deaths reported today in Ontario. Labs processed over 40, 000 tests in the past 24 hours, generating a positivity rate of at least 6.6 percent. Today's case total is the lowest Ontario has seen since Jan. 1st.

There were 3, 422 new cases reported on Sunday and 3, 056 reported on Saturday. The current seven-day average now stands at 3, 074, which is down ten percent from this time last week. Locally, there were 815 new cases reported in Toronto today, 507 in Peel, 151 in York Region, 151 in Niagara, and 121 in Hamilton.

There are currently more than 400 COVID-19-related patients in intensive care units across the province. Toronto's Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Eileen de Villa said today that existing intensive care units in the city will reach capacity by the end of January.

The province says that it has administered a total of 209, 788 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine as of today, and that more than 21, 000 people have received the full two-dose regimen.

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/ontario-reports-2-578-covid-19-cases-fewest-number-of-tests-in-2-weeks-1.5271126>

Major COVID-19 vaccination site opens at Metro Toronto Convention Centre

Until now, COVID-19 vaccines have only been administered at 19 hospital sites across Ontario. Toronto recently agreed to open a vaccine clinic inside the Metro Toronto Convention Centre in order to help develop a blueprint for how shots can be administered in non-medical settings. This wide-scale rollout is expected to take place in the spring, and so in preparation the province will monitor the site to inform how to host vaccination drives in larger settings.

The site has an aim of administering 250 doses of the vaccine per day, and would be capable of increasing output with little notice. The City of Toronto says that the clinic will use Moderna vaccine doses, as they are not impacted by the recent production delays announced by Pfizer for the coming weeks. Officials said that Moderna doses may be diverted elsewhere to fill in gaps caused by shutdowns in deliveries of the Pfizer vaccine.

Ontario aims to begin vaccinating seniors living in the community, essential workers, those living with complex chronic conditions and those from historically marginalized groups starting in April.

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/major-covid-19-vaccination-site-opens-at-metro-toronto-convention-centre-1.5270878>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Harmony Place

Online Music Therapy Sessions

Date: Wednesdays and Fridays, starting Friday August 7th, and Wednesday August 19th, 2020

Time: 2:30 – 3:30pm

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82054622001?pwd=Z2xyZjFZQUpNRFB6YzAwU085N3pGUT09>

Meeting ID: 820 5462 2001

Passcode: 051424

For more information, contact Wanda by email at: wanda@harmonyplace.on.ca

If you or someone you know uses Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), and requires resources related to COVID-19, please contact Sarah (sarah.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

North Yorkers for Disabled Persons, Inc. Updated January 18, 2021

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

Please refer back 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 Outreach

Communication Facilitator Sarah, at 416-222-4448 or

sarah.nydp@gmail.com