

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – July 23 2021

As of July 23rd, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,425,398 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 548,986 cases and Toronto has 170,436 cases.

Ontario reports just under 200 new cases of COVID-19

Ontario reported 192 new cases of COVID-19 today, up from 185 yesterday, 135 the day before, and 127 the day before that. The seven-day average is 160, slightly up from 151 at this time last week. The positivity rate is 0.9%.

Of these new cases, there are 43 in Toronto, 25 in Peel Region, 18 in Waterloo, 18 in York Region, 11 in Durham Region, 11 in Hamilton, 10 in Grey Bruce, 10 in Simcoe Muskoka, and 4 in Halton Region.

So far, over 18.7 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered in the province, and 120,231 doses were given out yesterday. Currently, 8,375,133 Ontario residents have received both doses and are considered to be fully vaccinated.

Source:

1. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-reports-more-than-190-new-covid-19-cases-as-seven-day-average-climbs-slightly-1.5520533>

Will we have vaccine certificates?

Nothing has been decided yet, but on Wednesday, Ontario's COVID-19 Science Advisory Table published a 21-page document with recommendations on a vaccination certification program.

The table says that a vaccine certificate isn't the same thing as a vaccine passport because a passport allows you to travel internationally while a certificate would allow you to go places locally.

According to the table, vaccine certificates could be useful in reopening higher-risk settings in the province sooner or at an increased capacity. "Higher-risk settings" refers to indoor dining,

bars, gyms, cultural and sports events. The document specifies that certain spaces, such as essential and low-risk settings, should not require any sort of certification.

Scientific Director, Dr. Peter Jüni stated that a vaccine certification program could help the province in “[finding] the solution that would help us if the situation gets worse again, to keep the economy and the society open, and just make sure that discretionary spaces such as chains, indoor dining cinema halls ... remain safe and don’t contribute to outbreaks.”

He added that, “The only way to deal with this is to make a distinction between vaccinated and unvaccinated.”

The document says: “Given the anticipated seasonality of [COVID-19], as well as the possibility of additional variants of concern, establishing ... [a] COVID-19 vaccine certification may be useful if public health measures need to be reintroduced.”

Last week, Premier Doug Ford came out strongly against the idea of a vaccine passport. “The answer is no, we’re not gonna do it. We’re not gonna have a split society,” Ford told reporters in response to a question about creating vaccine passports.

In the past, Toronto Mayor John Tory has called for the implementation of a vaccine certification program. “The bottom line is that if there are people including [the] government who are going to ask you to show that you’ve been vaccinated or not as just a practical means, then the same government, the provincial government in this case, has to provide something to people to be able to show they’ve been vaccinated.”

Source:

1. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-science-table-says-vaccine-certificates-could-be-used-to-speed-up-reopening-of-high-risk-settings-1.5518238>

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:

March of Dimes

3-Part Series with Caroline Tapp-McDougall

Session 2: Daily Triumphs

Date: RESCHEDULED for Monday, September 20th at 2:00pm.

Registration link to be updated soon.

Caregiver Connection Group

Caregiver Conversation Series

Date: Thursdays at 2:00pm (ongoing)

To register:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/march-of-dimes-canada-caregiver-conversation-series-tickets-142228614615?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Caregiver Webinar

What to do when you need funding for Assistive Devices and how March of Dimes Canada can help

Date: Monday, July 26th at 2:00 pm.

To register:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/funding-for-assistive-devices-how-march-of-dimes-canada-can-help-registration-160967248373?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

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

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.