

**Coronavirus: COVID-19**  
**Current Update – July 26 2021**

As of July 26th, 2021, Canada has a total of 1,426,644 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 549,447 cases and Toronto has 170,476 cases.

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**Support available for people with disabilities between the ages of 12 and 17**

Mass vaccination clinics can be overwhelming, and this discomfort is intensified for some people with disabilities. To address this barrier, the Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) is offering support for paediatric patients in the Greater Toronto Area so that they can get vaccinated in a youth-friendly environment that aims to reduce stress.

This support is available for youth between the ages of 12 and 17 who need accommodations “due to medical complexity, developmental disorder or mobility, communication, behavioural, or other specialized needs, including significant needle phobia.” If this applies to you or someone you know, encourage them to talk to their doctor about this program with SickKids.

Doctors can refer patients who fit this criteria to SickKids, as well as communicate the special considerations or accommodations that need to be in place. Once the doctor makes the referral, “a member of the SickKids COVID-19 Mobile Vaccination team will reach out directly to the patient’s family to book an appointment.”

Then, “SickKids can coordinate their COVID-19 vaccination appointment and offer specialized services, including drive-through vaccination and the availability of Child Life Specialists and paediatric vaccinators.” This means people who specialize in supporting youth while they are getting vaccinated will be available to make youth feel even more at ease.

Also, SickKids is able to offer “a medical consultation with a paediatric vaccination expert to address any hesitancy, misinformation or vaccination questions.”

If you have any questions about this program, you are welcome to email [mobile.vaccination@sickkids.ca](mailto:mobile.vaccination@sickkids.ca). This is the same address that doctors are invited to use to make referrals.

Source:

1. [SickKids Mobile Vaccination Team](#)

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## **Ontario reports just under 200 new cases of COVID-19**

For the past 4 days, there have been over 150 new COVID-19 cases in the province, but today Ontario is reporting 119 new cases. For context, there were 172 cases on Sunday, 170 on Saturday, 192 on Friday and 185 on Thursday.

Of these new cases, there are 22 in Toronto, 15 in Hamilton, 14 in Waterloo, and 13 in Peel Region. The seven-day average is 157, slightly up from 152 at this time last week. The positivity rate is around 1%.

So far, over 19 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered in the province, and 65,920 doses were given out yesterday. Currently, 8,625,932 Ontario residents have received both doses and are considered to be fully vaccinated.

Source:

1. <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-reports-dip-in-covid-19-cases-after-four-days-above-150-mark-1.5523223>

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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:**

## **Townhall for Wheel-Trans Users**

“Do you use Wheel-Trans? What about someone you know? Thousands of Wheel-Trans users could lose door-to-door access under a TTC program called the ‘Family of Services.’”

Click [here](#) to learn more about ‘Family of Services’ and how it can impact you.

Date: Wednesday, August 4th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

ASL interpretation and closed captioning available.

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/townhall-for-wheel-trans-users-tickets-162969862245>

## **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 26<sup>th</sup> 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>

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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 Sarah ([sarah.nydp@gmail.com](mailto: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](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 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](mailto:sarah.nydp@gmail.com).