

**Coronavirus: COVID-19**  
**Current Update – May 14 2021**

As of May 14th, 2021, Canada has a total of 1, 302, 645 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario has 499, 412 cases and Toronto has 157, 394 cases.

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**Ontario will begin vaccinating students ages 12 to 17 and their families at the end of May**

“Starting May 31, youth between 12 and 17 years of age and their family members who have not received the vaccine will be able to book an appointment to receive their first dose of the Pfizer vaccine,” Doug Ford said during a news conference Thursday.

Earlier this month, Health Canada announced the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is safe to give to children ages 12 and older. This was based on the results of Pfizer-BioNTech’s clinical trial involving 2, 260 adolescents aged 12 to 15.

Premier Ford said schools across Ontario would continue virtual learning until a “consensus” is reached between public health doctors, teachers and labour partners.

The COVID-19 vaccine is not mandatory for children, and children will not be vaccinated if their parents do not want them to be. Health Minister Christine Elliot said, “We encourage people very strongly to receive the vaccine as soon as it’s their time to protect themselves and their loved ones, but at this point it will not be compulsory.”

Sources:

- 1.<https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-will-begin-vaccinating-students-ages-12-to-17-and-their-families-at-the-end-of-may-1.5426626>
- 2.<https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=2200311>

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**Ontario reports just over 2, 300 new COVID-19 cases**

Today, Ontario reported 2, 362 new cases of COVID-19. The province’s positivity rate is 6.1%. Based on the past 7 days, the average of new cases per day in Ontario is 2, 616, down from 3, 265 one week ago.

Officials reported 691 new cases in Toronto, 563 new cases in Peel Region, 224 new cases in York Region, 148 new cases in Durham Region and 112 new cases in Hamilton.

Throughout the province-wide lockdown, the number of COVID-19 patients in Intensive Care Units (ICUs) has been steadily decreasing. There are 777 COVID-19 patients in ICUs across Ontario, and 560 of them are breathing with the help of a ventilator. There are 1, 582 people in hospital with COVID-19.

Today, the province reported 2, 632 new cases of the UK variant in Ontario. The total case count for the strain is now 103, 864. Also, there are 20 new cases of the South African variant, which brings its total case count in the province to 594. In addition, the province added 19 more cases of the Brazilian variant, which brings its total case count to 1, 746.

Regarding vaccines, 141, 765 doses have been administered in the past 24 hours. Currently, 415, 531 Ontarians are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Ford told reporters on Thursday that his goal is to have a “two-dose summer” if supply allows, which would mean that all willing adults will be fully immunized against COVID-19 by mid-September.

Source:

<https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-reports-just-over-2-300-new-covid-19-cases-26-more-deaths-1.5427897>

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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 North Yorkers for Disabled Persons, Inc.

Updated May 14, 2021

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**

### **Caregiver Webinars**

#### **Navigating the Healthcare System**

Date: Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/navigating-the-healthcare-system-registration-151067826937>

#### **Stress Management for Caregivers**

Date: Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 2:00pm

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/stress-management-for-caregivers-registration-151071788787>

#### **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>

## **Better Living Health and Community Services**

### **Wellness Breaks and Lunch n' Learns**

Getting off the Path to Burnout with Dr. Marci Kostenuik

Date: Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 1:30pm

To register: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJuf-urqDktH9Oj01j8gFIMz8y6T33y1nz1>

Music for Emotional Expression with SarahRose Black

Date: Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 1:00pm

To register: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0ufu6uqjwjEtRpr86FUvBHq-B2wRHqRWnh>

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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)