

HPMVAC update: Feb. 18, 2021

Current Vaccination Status in Huron-Perth

- Ontario is in Phase 1 of the province's three-phase vaccination plan.
- With the renewed delivery of vaccine into Canada and guidance from the Province, Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH), along with our regional partners Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU), and Southwestern Public Health (SWPH), will be expanding vaccination to other prioritized groups identified in the first Phase of Ontario's Vaccination Plan, who have yet to receive a first dose.
- Immediate priority for first-dose vaccination:
 - Staff and essential caregivers in long-term care homes, retirement homes and First Nations elder care homes, and any residents of these settings that have not yet received a first dose of vaccine.
 - Alternative level of care patients in hospitals who have a confirmed admission to a long-term care home, retirement home or other congregate care home for seniors, as feasible.
 - Highest Priority health care workers, in accordance with the Ministry of Health's guidance on Health Care Worker Prioritization.
 - Indigenous adults in northern remote and higher risk communities (including on-reserve and urban communities).
- Please refer to the Feb. 17, 2021 MEMO: Update on Regional Prioritization of COVID-19 Vaccine from MLHU, SWPH and HPPH for more information. (attached)

Current Vaccination Activities

- Second-dose vaccines for long-term care and high risk retirement home residents will be completed by end of day Thursday February 18.
- HPPH is working with long-term care and retirement homes to schedule appointments for staff and essential caregivers who have yet to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. These will be done through pilot clinics early next week, with the support of Community Emergency Management Coordinators and municipalities in Huron and Perth. **Only those who are eligible will be contacted for these clinics.**
- Mobile teams will continue for retirement home residents as eligible. We are looking ahead to continued mobile clinics for healthcare workers.
- Huron Perth received our first shipment of Pfizer vaccine this week.

Please Note

- During Phase 1, eligible, confirmed candidates for vaccinations are being directly contacted.
- When Phase 2 and Phase 3 vaccinations roll out, HPPH and partners will be sharing information widely on who is eligible to receive the vaccine and how to get it.
 - This will include direct contact of eligible participants through organizations and facilities, as well as mass media, print, and social media.

- Please **do not** call Huron Perth Public Health, your primary care provider, or the pharmacy to be put on a wait list for the vaccine. If you are eligible during Phase One, you will be contacted. As mentioned above, communications will go out widely to notify eligible candidates for Phases 2 and 3 when those phases are set to begin.
- **Please remember that there will be enough vaccine for everyone.** Anyone who wants to be vaccinated will receive their opportunity to be vaccinated. We appreciate the enthusiasm and patience of those eager to receive COVID vaccine.
- Vaccine doses can be maximized through use of 1mL syringes. We ask our healthcare partners to consider using alternate syringe sizes where appropriate to preserve all 1mL syringes for vaccination purposes in our communities.
- As vaccinations roll out, it is also important to continue following all public health measures: wash hands often, avoid close contact with people who are not part of your household, maintain two metres of physical distance from others, wear a mask in indoor public spaces, stay home when sick.

For More Information

Please visit www.hpph.ca/vaccine for more information, or contact your HPMVAC sector representative. The HPMVAC membership list is available at www.hpph.ca/vaccine. You can also call HPPH at 888.221.2133 for more information.

About HPMVAC

The Huron Perth COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Advisory Committee (HPMVAC) is a collaborative of multiple relevant sector stakeholder members from our Huron and Perth communities.

Under the leadership of Huron Perth Public Health, our table has been meeting to inform COVID-19 mass vaccination planning and operations for our communities.

This memo serves to update you, our community members and partners. Please note, guidance provided is tentative and subject to change. This reflects the evolving nature of COVID-19 and related supply chain logistics.