




COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members Board of Health
DATE:	February 23, 2024
SUBJECT:	Public Health Services Respiratory Vaccine Clinics (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Jordan Walker Director, Communicable Disease Control Division Public Health Services
SIGNATURE:	

This communication is to provide Council with an update on Public Health Services respiratory vaccine clinics, which provide vaccination for COVID-19, influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) to eligible populations in the community, focusing on the most vulnerable, equity deserving populations.

The Ministry of Health has indicated the wind-down of the fall respiratory vaccine campaign. In alignment, Hamilton Public Health Services will be holding our last respiratory virus vaccination clinic for the fall campaign on February 29, 2024. This vaccine campaign began October 2023, and along with pharmacy, acute care, institutions, and other community providers, supported provision of COVID-19, influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccinations to eligible populations in advance of and through the 2023/2024 respiratory virus season.

Currently, local respiratory virus activity for both COVID-19 and influenza has been decreasing and measures of community activity are low.

Anyone in the community who still requires a first dose of COVID-19 following the Fall 2023 campaign will be guided to the pharmacies/primary care providers, links to which can be found on our website: <https://www.hamilton.ca/people-programs/public-health/diseases-conditions/cold-flu-covid-19/covid-19-vaccine>. Ordering and distribution of COVID-19 vaccine for local healthcare providers, such as primary care, remains available through Hamilton Public Health Services. For members of the public who encounter difficulty finding a location to be vaccinated for COVID-19, they can also call

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OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

SUBJECT: Public Health Services Respiratory Vaccine Clinics (City Wide) - Page 2 of 2

our Vaccine Program at (905) 540-5250 (Option 3 to speak with a Public Health Nurse) and we can support them to access a vaccination.

Ministry of Health direction on a COVID-19 Spring 2024 vaccination campaign, specifically to provide vaccine for high-risk groups, is anticipated in the coming month. More information, including eligibility and timelines will be shared when available. It is expected that Public Health Services clinics would be supporting provision of COVID-19 vaccinations as part of any potential spring campaign, and initial planning is underway.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please contact Jordan Walker, Director, Communicable Disease Control Division, Public Health Services at jordan.walker@hamilton.ca.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Not Applicable.