

Update on COVID-19

Chief Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager of Emergency Management

February 17, 2021 at 2 p.m.

Members' Lounge, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. W

Good afternoon.

Before I provide my update on our Immunization Task Force operations, I would like to extend my sincere condolences to the family, friends and all those impacted by this morning's tragic and fatal fire in Orphan's Green Park, located at Adelaide and Power Street.

At approximately 6:00 this morning, our crews responded to a fire involving a wooden structure that had been placed in Orphan's Green Park.

Unfortunately, during the course of fighting this fire, one male occupant was located inside the remains of this small wooden structure.

Sadly, he was pronounced dead on the scene.

The investigation into where this fire started, the cause of the fire and the circumstances contributing to this tragic loss of life is now underway, in collaboration between Toronto Fire, Toronto Police, the Ontario Office of the Fire Marshal and the Office of the Chief Coroner.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to everyone impacted and affected by this tragic loss.

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, the City-operated, proof of concept COVID-19 immunization clinic, located inside the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, reopened in order to deliver second doses of COVID-19 vaccine.

The same group of healthcare workers who received their first dose of vaccine during the initial two days of clinic operations in January, received their second doses this week, and are now immunized against COVID-19.

I am very pleased to report that the clinic operated smoothly, and that there were no issues identified during these two days of operations.

I am also pleased to report that the Provincial COVAX-ON software system, which is the system used to track and manage all COVID-19 immunization operations in Toronto, also worked very well, with no operational issues being reported.

Our Immunization Task Force continues to be hard at work, preparing our network of city-operated immunization clinic locations, such that we are ready to go when the time comes.

We do not yet have confirmation from the Province of Ontario as to when we will be able to resume COVID-19 immunization clinic operations.

However, our teams will be ready to go, when vaccine availability permits the resumption and expansion of immunization operations.

We will ensure that the details relating to the ongoing rollout of the COVID-19 immunization efforts in Toronto are well communicated, across each of our communications networks and platforms, as very soon as new information becomes available.

Please continue to monitor toronto.ca/covid19 for the most up to date information on immunization operations in Toronto.

Thank you.