

Update on COVID-19

Chief Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager of Emergency Management

April 19, 2021 at 2 p.m.

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

Since April 12th all of our 9 city-operated COVID-19 vaccine clinics have been operating 7 days per week, with appointments available between 11:00 AM and 8:00 PM daily.

All 9 clinics continue to operate efficiently and smoothly, with each clinic operating either at or very near maximum capacity, on a daily basis, based on vaccine availability.

Wait times for those who arrive shortly before their scheduled appointment are very short, with most people not having to wait at all.

In fact, the majority of people are checked in, vaccinated and checked out of the clinic, in about 30 minutes.

The number of appointments that are made available in city-operated vaccine clinics, corresponds directly with the number of doses of vaccine that are available to be administered.

At present, we are able to administer 56,322 doses of vaccine each week, across the network of city-operated clinics.

We intentionally scale our clinic operations, in order to protect vaccine allotment for our Hospital and Ontario Health Team partners as well, such that their clinic operations are able to continue to the largest extent possible.

Our Immunization Task Force continues to be focused on vaccinating as many people as possible, as quickly as possible.

This is a goal supported by our "Team Toronto" partners, including the City of Toronto, Ontario Health Teams, Hospitals, Pharmacies and Primary Care Physicians, all of whom are working in collaboration to maximize vaccine roll-out across Toronto, including supporting mobile clinics as part of Phase 2.

In direct collaboration with Dr. de Villa and our Immunization Task Force Command Team, we are hard at work identifying opportunities to further optimize the allocation and roll-out of vaccine across Toronto.

This includes looking at a number of options to prioritize the administration of COVID-19 vaccine in hotspot neighbourhoods.

By optimizing both our city-operated vaccine clinic operations, while also maximizing the supports we are able to provide to our hospital and Ontario health team partners for community-based mobile and pop-up clinics, we can ensure the most effective administration of vaccine in our City.

As additional vaccine becomes available, we look forward to being able to significantly expand operations in our vaccine clinics as well as in both mobile and pop-up clinic operations.

Further information as to current opportunities to receive COVID-19 vaccine can be obtained at [Toronto.ca/covid19](https://toronto.ca/covid19) as well as through our Team Toronto hospital and Ontario health team partner website at vaccineto.ca

Eligible residents can book their vaccine appointment, in city-operated clinics, by accessing the online Provincial Booking System at [Toronto.ca/covid19](https://toronto.ca/covid19) or via the Provincial Call Centre at 1-888-999-6488.

On April 15, the Province of Ontario issued amended Regulations, resulting in the implementation of further COVID-19 restrictions.

Since the announcement of these changes on Friday afternoon, our staff have been working around the clock to assess and respond to these changes, including the modification of city service delivery models where necessary.

We will continue to provide the essential and critical services that our residents require, without interruption, as we have throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

By order of Provincial Regulation, City-operated recreation amenities in parks, such as tennis courts, soccer fields, basketball courts, fitness equipment and each of the city-operated golf courses must close.

The full list of amenities that have been closed by Provincial order can be found on our website at [Toronto.ca](https://toronto.ca).

Beginning today, City staff have begun closing all affected parks and outdoor recreation amenities.

Given the volume of outdoor recreation amenities in Toronto, which are spread across the City's network of more than 1,500 parks, we estimated that we it will take approximately one week to close all of the amenities ordered closed by the Province of Ontario, and to post the required signage.

All gated amenities will be closed and locked and signage will be posted advising of the closure.

The following City outdoor recreation amenities were not included in the provincial order and will remain open:

- City parks and playgrounds;
- Off-leash dog areas;
- Outdoor allotment gardens and community gardens;
- Park washrooms; and
- Park benches

While City parks and public spaces offer the space to socially distance, they are a shared space, and everyone has a responsibility to act respectfully and follow provincial orders and City bylaws.

Thank you for all that you are doing each day to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in Toronto.

Please continue to monitor toronto.ca/COVID-19 for the most up to date information on Immunizations in Toronto.

Thank you.