

Update on COVID-19

Chief Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager of Emergency Management

May 12, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

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

Before I begin my formal remarks this afternoon, I too would like to acknowledge that this is National Police Week.

This year's theme is "Working together to keep our communities safe."

Each and every day, our Toronto Police officers are on the very front lines of community safety, working to keep Toronto safe.

The challenges of protecting public health and safety, in a city as large and dynamic as Toronto, are very significant.

Fulfilling this mandate during the COVID-19 pandemic, is all the more challenging.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Chief Ramer and each of my Toronto Police colleagues who work day and night to keep us all safe.

The eligibility for booking vaccine appointments is determined by the Province of Ontario.

On Tuesday morning this week, the Province extended vaccine eligibility to all individuals with at-risk health conditions, such as dementia and diabetes, as well to "Group Two" of people who cannot work from home, including grocery store, restaurant and transportation workers.

Since Tuesday morning, more than 15,000 people have successfully booked their appointments to receive COVID-19 vaccine, in a city-operated clinic.

Of course, our ability to make vaccine appointments available and to administer vaccine in city-operated clinics, is dependent upon the supply of vaccine that is available to us.

As of this morning, while our city-operated clinics are very close to being fully booked for a number of weeks, there are still appointments times remaining available between today and June 13.

For the remainder of this week, our clinics are 98% booked with approximately 1,200 appointment slots remaining available to be booked, as of this morning.

For the week of May 17, our clinics are nearly fully booked, although I am pleased that we will be making an additional 5,000 appointments available for the week of May 17.

These additional appointments will go live in the booking system at 08:00 AM tomorrow.

For the week of May 24, our clinics are nearly fully booked.

For the week of May 31, our clinics are 97% booked.

For the week of June 7, approximately 23,000 appointments remain available to be booked.

Tomorrow at 08:00 AM, the Province of Ontario will expand vaccine eligibility at City-run clinics to anyone who is 40 years of age or older.

We are working to open new blocks of appointments on a proactive basis, and as soon as possible, in an effort to ensure that people have as much opportunity as possible to book their vaccine appointments.

Over the course of this week, our clinics are operating at the highest weekly vaccine administration rates yet, with 98,280 people being able to be vaccinated across our network of 9 city-operated clinics this week.

The number of appointments that are made available corresponds directly with the number of doses of vaccine that are provided to us.

As additional vaccine is provided to the City by the Province of Ontario, we have plans in place to expand our city-operated clinic operations to match.

Between the 1st and 10th of May, we have averaged a 1.7% no-show rate across the network of 9 city-operated clinics.

This means that on average, approximately 1.7% of people who have a confirmed appointment in a city-operated clinic, did not arrive for their confirmed appointment.

While we have robust processes in place to ensure that the associated doses of vaccine do not go to waste when this happens, this does result in valuable appointments not being used when they are available.

I ask everyone who has booked a vaccine appointment, to be sure to cancel in advance, in the event that you are unable to make your scheduled appointment.

This will ensure that the maximum number of people are able to receive their COVID-19 vaccine as very quickly as possible.

Appointments can be cancelled via the online booking system or by calling the Provincial call centre.

Thank you for all that you do to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in our City.

Please continue to monitor [Toronto.ca/COVID-19](https://toronto.ca/COVID-19) for the most up to date information on Immunizations in Toronto.