

Update on COVID-19

Chief Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager of Emergency Management

May 19, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

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

To date, more than 1.79 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Toronto.

With nearly 25,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine administered yesterday, we are continuing to ensure that as many people are being vaccinated as possible, each and every day.

As Mayor Tory announced earlier, I am very pleased that we are opening approximately 19,000 additional appointments, in city-operated clinics, over the course of the upcoming Victoria Day long weekend.

This means that 4,750 additional people will be able to receive their 1st dose of vaccine, each day, between this Friday and Monday, in city-operated vaccine clinics.

And this is in addition to the increased number of doses that our Team Toronto partners will also be able to administer this weekend.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our Provincial counterparts for making these additional doses of vaccine available.

I would also like to thank our Immunization Task Force team for working through the night, twice this week so far, in order to develop and load the vaccine clinic load templates that make it possible for these additional appointments to be able to be booked.

These are incredibly dedicated people, who continue to give their all to get Toronto vaccinated as quickly as possible.

The additional supply of vaccine, this Victoria Day long weekend, returns our 9 city-operated clinics to maximum operational capacity.

Over the course of Friday through Monday, we will be able to vaccinate approximately 56,000 people over those 4 days alone.

These additional appointments will go live in the Provincial Booking System at 4:00 PM this afternoon.

As always, appointments in city-operated vaccine clinics can be booked via the Provincial Booking System by accessing [Toronto.ca/covid19](https://toronto.ca/covid19) and clicking on the blue "Book a Vaccine" button on the top of the page or by calling the Provincial Call centre at 1-833-943-3900.

I want to remind everyone who has booked an upcoming appointment, in a city-operated clinic, that should you wish to take advantage of the additional appointment availability by booking an earlier appointment, you can do that by accessing the "reschedule" link that is included in your appointment confirmation email that you received when you made your original appointment booking.

You can also reschedule your appointment by calling the Provincial Call Centre at 1-833-943-3900.

I am also very pleased that we are opening an additional 9,720 appointments, in city-operated clinics, between Tuesday and Sunday next week.

These additional appointments will also be available, on the Provincial Booking System, as of 4:00 this afternoon.

Since 08:00 Monday morning, more than 37,000 people have booked their appointments in city-operated clinics.

As of 1:30 this afternoon, there are approximately 149,850 1st dose appointments still available, in city-operated clinics, between today and July 4.

I encourage everyone, who is 18 years of age and older, to book your appointment to get vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as you are able.

I would also like to provide some clarity on a frequently asked question that we are receiving with respect to eligibility for those between 12 and 17 years of age.

In order to be eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine as a youth, you must have actually reached your 12th birthday on the day that you receive your vaccine.

The Province of Ontario has advised that youth between 12 and 17 years of age, and their family members who have not received a vaccine, will be eligible to book an appointment for their first dose of the Pfizer vaccine at mass immunization clinics, beginning the week of May 31.

We are awaiting the details as to when and how this expanded booking system eligibility will be made available, both online and through the Provincial call centre.

Some of our Team Toronto partners are already making vaccine available to youth, who have reached their 12th birthday.

Please go to vaccineto.ca for vaccine opportunities that may exist in Team Toronto partner clinics.

For those active on social media, I also encourage you to follow Vaccine Hunters Canada on Twitter for additional information on opportunities to receive COVID-19 vaccine in Toronto.

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 for the most up to date information on Immunizations in Toronto.