Update on COVID-19  
Dr. Eileen de Villa, Medical Officer of Health  
June 7, 2021 at 2 p.m.  
Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. W.

- Thank you Mayor Tory, and good afternoon.

- Today, I am reporting three days of data so 394 new cases of COVID-19.

- That's a daily average of 131 new cases.

- 713 people are in hospital.

- 211 people are in the ICU.

- I am saddened to report 15 deaths today.

- June is a week old – and I have reported to you a total of 42 lives lost.

- While our own prospects are brighter, this is a reminder that COVID-19 is still something to be taken seriously and how getting vaccinated is our best protection from it.

- As of this morning, more access than ever is open to people seeking to book their second vaccination.

- It could not come at a more important time.

- All indicators have changed significantly since the peak of this wave.

- It is good news for all of us that access to second dose booking has expanded as of this morning so that people can complete their vaccinations and be fully protected.
As the Chief will tell you in his upcoming remarks, we understand that already we are seeing a brisk response to the increased access in terms of people trying to book.

Overall, getting vaccinated has never been more important and we have more options than we have ever had in this extraordinary vaccination campaign.

This is important because for most of the pandemic I have tried to persuade you that to prevent the spread of COVID-19 we needed to keep apart as much as possible.

Now we are in a position where we have to come together around the common need to be vaccinated.

Overall, there is an impressive performance by Toronto – more than 70 per cent of people 18 and older have had a first dose.

In the ages between 60 and 79, vaccination rates for the first doses are approaching 80 per cent. That’s what we want to see, and would like to see this number increase as much as possible.

We need to get the first dose delivery further ahead and work hard to complete the all-important second doses during the summer, especially in hot spots, those areas of the city that have been hit hardest by COVID-19 and continue to experience higher levels of disease activity.

The booking process may at times require patience, with so many people trying to schedule their vaccinations at the same time.

I can assure you everybody involved in delivering those vaccinations wants to get it done for you as much as you want to have it settled.

Making this even more important is today's announcement that as of this Friday, the Province will move into Step One on its Roadmap to Reopening.
A huge number of people in Toronto have shown resounding commitment and motivation to getting us to where we want to be and so long as that continues we are on the right path out of the pandemic.

-Media contact: tphmedia@toronto.ca-