

COVID-19 Update for Partners

July 14, 2021

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Key messages from Dr. Gardner, Medical Officer of Health

Increasing availability of walk-in appointments

- Our community vaccination clinics continue to offer more opportunities for Simcoe Muskoka residents ages 12 years and older to walk in and receive their first or second COVID-19 vaccine dose without an appointment. **All of our mass immunization clinics are now allowing Simcoe Muskoka residents to walk in to receive their first vaccine dose.**
- A schedule that outlines which of our clinics are able to offer second dose walk-in appointments for the upcoming week is available on the health unit's [website](#). The health unit also posts daily on our social media channels about any clinics that have the capacity to offer second dose walk-in appointments. Eligibility criteria for these walk-in appointments is as follows:
 - Walk-ins are for those who have a primary or secondary residence and/or who receive their health care in Simcoe Muskoka.
 - Those who received an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) for their first dose can walk in to receive their second dose at a participating clinic if it has been at least 28 days since they received their first vaccine dose.
 - Individuals who received a first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine can walk in to receive a second dose of an mRNA vaccine if it has been 8-12 weeks since the date of their first dose.
 - Walk-in appointments will be available while supplies last.
- Residents are encouraged to come dressed for the weather as they may be required to wait outdoors for a short time before entering the clinic. We are doing our best to minimize wait times and move lines indoors when we can. If anyone is unable to wait outside, they can let our staff know and we will bring them inside to wait. Individuals are also advised to bring their health card, a list of medications they are taking, and any assistive devices needed.

Dr. Gardner's next media briefing will take place on Tuesday, July 20. Previous media briefings are available on the SMDHU [Facebook](#) page and [YouTube](#) channel.

Simcoe Muskoka COVID-19 Case Status *(As of July 14, 2021 14:00)*

Total Cases	Active Cases	Recovered	Deaths
12,325	44	11,605	254

In the last day:

- 5 people became cases, 3 people recovered, and there were no new hospitalizations or deaths.

Currently:

- There have been 6 new cases reported to the health unit for the current week.
- 4 Simcoe Muskoka residents are hospitalized with COVID-19.
- There are 26 active variant cases*.
- There are no active COVID-19 outbreaks in Simcoe Muskoka.
- There has been a total of 84 confirmed cases of the Delta variant in Simcoe Muskoka.

Since the last Partner Update:

- We have reported 20 new cases, 28 recoveries, and 3 new deaths.
- There are 11 fewer active cases compared to the same day last week.
- There is one less active outbreak compared to the same day last week.
- During the week of July 4, there were 20 new cases reported to the health unit, which was 43% lower than the 37 cases reported the week prior and the lowest weekly case total since August 2020.

For more local data, see: SMDHU [COVID-19 HealthSTATS page](#) and [COVID-19 Monitoring Dashboard](#)

*Variant cases encompass confirmed VOC cases and positive screens for a VOC. Caution should be taken when interpreting these data due to potential sampling biases and delay between sample collection and sequencing in recent weeks.

Simcoe Muskoka COVID-19 Vaccine Data *(As of July 14, 2021 14:00)*

Total # immunized with first dose	Total # immunized with second dose
404,292	261,298

Highlights:

- 53,579 immunizations have been provided since the last Partner Update.
- Nearly 404,300 Simcoe Muskoka residents have received their first dose, representing 66.9% of the total population and 76.1% of those ages 12 and older. This includes:
 - 220,799 adults 50 years of age and older (87%);
 - 159,404 adults 18-49 years of age (67%); and,
 - 24,082 youth 12-17 years of age (62%).
- Nearly 261,300 people have received both required doses of the vaccine, representing 43.3% of the total population and 49.3% of those 12 and older in Simcoe Muskoka.

Local Media Updates *(Since July 7, 2021 Partner Update)*

- Early Step 3 comes with some risks, says Dr. Gardner ([article](#))
- Door-to-door outreach pilot project in Wasaga Beach brings vaccines to arms ([article](#))
- COVID vaccine clinic will be popping up in Clearview next week ([article](#))
- Zero heart issues, blood clots linked to Simcoe Muskoka's 600k vaccine shots ([article](#))
- Need a COVID shot? Lots of walk-in opportunities this week ([article](#))
- Bilingual COVID-19 vaccine walk-in clinic coming to Tiny Township this Friday ([article](#))

- How a Barrie retirement home is helping its residents heal from the pandemic ([article](#))
- Neighbouring Grey Bruce region deemed hot spot for Delta variant ([article](#))
- Cohorting, masking probable in Simcoe Muskoka's return to school ([article](#))
- Barrie doctor frustrated, puzzled by COVID long-hauler symptoms ([article](#))

Provincial, National and Global COVID-19 Case Status			
Ontario (As of July 14, 2021, 10:30)			
Total cases	Active Cases	Resolved	Deaths
547,562	1,478	536,819	9,265
<p><u>As of today:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were 153 new cases, 216 resolved cases, and 7 deaths in the last day. • The total confirmed variant of concern cases in Ontario are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lineage B.1.1.7 (Alpha variant): 144,755 ○ Lineage B.1.351 (Beta variant): 1,464 ○ Lineage P.1 (Gamma variant): 4,933 ○ Lineage B.1.617.2 (Delta variant): 3,057 • A total of 174 people are hospitalized with COVID-19, 180 people are in intensive care units (ICU) due to COVID-related critical illness, and 116 people are on ventilators. • A total of 17,475,655 vaccine doses have been administered. 68.9% of all Ontarians and 78.8% of those ages 12 and older have received their first vaccine dose. 49.2% of all Ontarians and 56.3% of those ages 12 and older have been fully vaccinated. • There are 77 ongoing COVID-19 outbreaks in Ontario (workplaces: 26, other settings: 20, congregate living: 14, health care settings: 13, schools and childcares: 4). <p><u>Since the last Partner Update:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been 1,151 new cases, 1,473 recoveries, and 41 deaths. • There are 363 fewer active cases compared to the same day last week. • There are 27 fewer people hospitalized, 40 fewer people in the ICU, and 39 fewer people on ventilators compared to the same day last week. • The 7-day average number of new daily cases is 164. <p><u>Regional updates:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas with the highest number of active cases per 100,000 population: Waterloo (45.97), Grey Bruce (38.75), Porcupine (22.57), Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph (17.58), and Hamilton (15.27). • Areas with the highest number of active cases: Toronto (255), Waterloo (246), Grey Bruce (173), Peel (149), and Hamilton (82). <p><u>Weekly Epidemiological Summary highlights: June 27-July 3, 2021:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the week of June 27, there were 1,484 new cases reported, which represented a 21% decrease compared to the 1,888 cases reported the week prior. • For the past three weeks, the Central West region has reported the highest percentage of COVID-19 cases in Ontario. This is likely driven by the COVID-19 surge occurring in the Region of Waterloo. During the week of June 27, the Region of Waterloo accounted for 22.6% of all cases in the province. <p>For more provincial data, see: Ontario COVID-19 case data, Public Health Ontario Data Tool, Daily Epidemiologic Summaries and Weekly Epidemiologic Summaries</p>			

Canada (As of July 13, 2021 at 19:00 EDT)			
Total Cases	Active Cases	Resolved	Deaths
1,421,447	4,949	1,390,048	26,450
<u>Yesterday:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Canada reported 345 new cases and 12 new deaths.• New cases were reported in all provinces and territories except NB, PEI, NWT, and NT.• New deaths were reported in AB, MB, ON, and YT.			
<u>Since the last Partner Update:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In the last week, 3,367 people tested positive for COVID-19, 69 people died, and 3,827 people recovered.• There are 529 fewer active cases of COVID-19 than there was a week ago.			
<u>Key vaccine updates as of July 14, 2021:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 69.0% of the population has received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, including 79.3% of those ages 12 and older.• 45.3% of the population has been fully vaccinated, including 52.1% of those ages 12 and older.			
<u>Between June 28 and July 5, 2021:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of COVID-19 patients hospitalized decreased from 606 to 498.• The number of COVID-19 patients in ICU beds decreased from 377 to 302.• The number of COVID-19 patients mechanically vented decreased from 241 to 198.			
<u>Weekly epidemiology report: June 27- July 3, 2021:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New cases decreased by 21% compared to the previous week, with an average of 525 new cases reported every day.• New deaths increased by 7% compared to the previous week, with an average of 16 deaths reported every day.• The number of weekly hospitalizations decreased by 18% and the number of weekly cases in the ICU decreased by 17% compared to the week prior.• According to forecasting, between 1,419 to 1,422,005 cumulative reported cases and 26,300 to 26,605 cumulative reported deaths are expected by July 18, 2021.			
For more national data, see: Daily epidemiology updates and Weekly epidemiology report			
Global (As of July 14, 2021 at 11:38 CET)			
Confirmed Cases		Confirmed Deaths	
187,296,646		4,046,470	
<u>In the last day:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There were 401,973 new cases and 8,102 deaths.• Indonesia, the U.K., India, Russia, and Iran reported the most new cases and India, Indonesia, Russia, Brazil, and Colombia reported the most new deaths.			
<u>In the past week:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nearly 3.2 million new cases and 57,905 deaths were reported.• Brazil, India, Indonesia, the U.K., and the U.S. reported the most new cases and Brazil, India, Indonesia, Russia, and Colombia reported the most new deaths.			

Weekly Epidemiological Summary highlights: July 5-11, 2021:

- During the week of July 5, there were nearly 3 million new weekly cases reported, which represented a 10% increase compared to the week prior. Case incidence increased in all WHO regions except the Americas.
- Following a global decline in weekly deaths for nine consecutive weeks, there was a 3% increase in new deaths during the week of July 5 compared to the week prior.

For more international data, see: [WHO COVID-19 Disease Dashboard](#) and [Weekly Epidemiological and Operational Updates](#)

Provincial, National and Global Updates *(Since July 7, 2021 Partner Update)*

Provincial Updates

The Ontario Government:

- Updates testing requirements at long-term care homes ([news release](#))
- Is moving to Step Three of Roadmap to Reopen on July 16 ([news release](#))
- Is on path to economic recovery as restrictions lift ([statement](#))
- Over half of Ontario adults now vaccinated with second dose ([news release](#))

Public Health Ontario published:

- Mechanisms for Increased Transmission of Variants of Concern ([report](#))
- COVID-19 Vaccination for Post-Exposure Prophylaxis or Ring Vaccination ([synthesis](#))
- Updated: Trends of COVID-19 Incidence in Ontario ([epi summary](#))
- Updated: Vaccine Uptake and Program Impact in Ontario ([report](#))
- Updated: Elementary & Secondary School Outbreaks and Related Cases ([epi summary](#))

Other Provincial News:

- Top doctor warns it will be a 'challenge to fully reopen the economy next month' ([article](#))
- Ontario's top doc says young Ontarians have highest unvaccinated infection rate ([article](#))
- Waterloo Region moving to Step 3 of reopening plan with the rest of Ontario ([article](#))
- Ontario shifting focus to better target those not vaccinated against COVID-19 ([article](#))
- Should Ontario make the COVID-19 vaccine mandatory for school? ([article](#))
- ON top public health official says vaccine passports 'not necessary' at this time ([article](#))
- Toronto board of trade calls for vaccine passports for non-essential activities ([article](#))
- It's time for hospitals to loosen pandemic visitor restrictions, patient's family says ([article](#))
- People refuse to mix vaccine doses at mass immunization clinic in Brampton ([article](#))
- Ontario family doctors want clear plan on their future COVID-19 vaccination role ([article](#))
- Parents, experts want clearer guidance for unvaccinated children as ON reopens ([article](#))
- McMaster researchers map how VITT cases unfold in some vaccine recipients ([article](#))

National Updates

The Government of Canada:

- Delivers \$5B in pandemic support to provinces for vaccines, health care ([news release](#))
- Funds new projects to encourage COVID-19 vaccination in Canada ([news release](#))
- Yukon to receive federal assistance for support with COVID-19 efforts ([news release](#))
- COVID-19 update for Indigenous People and communities ([news release](#))
- Statements from the Chief Public Health Officer: [July 9](#), [July 13](#), [July 14](#)

Other National News:

- Ottawa says COVID booster shots may be needed, closely monitoring variants ([article](#))
- Health officials defend mix and match vaccine strategy after WHO comments ([article](#))

- Canada to donate 18M AstraZeneca doses to low-, middle-income countries ([article](#))
- Lambda and Delta are in Canada: The 5 major COVID-19 variants explained ([article](#))
- Unvaccinated tourists won't be welcome for some time, Trudeau says ([article](#))
- COVID's ability to spread is once again rising in Alberta ([article](#))
- What Canada can learn from Yukon's current wave of COVID-19 ([article](#))
- How Canadians are making sure no one is left behind in the vaccine rollout ([article](#))
- Overdoses, alcohol-related deaths increased in those under 65 during pandemic ([article](#))
- Vaccinated Canadians have questions, concerns as they prepare to travel again ([article](#))
- Better vaccine outreach to younger Canadians needed as first doses slow: Tam ([article](#))
- Most Canadians support scrapping all restrictions at U.S.-Canada border by fall ([article](#))
- Canada not doomed to fourth wave, doctors say, despite U.K.'s experience ([article](#))
- Tam talking to provinces about protecting kids too young to be vaccinated ([article](#))
- Half of COVID-19 patients report symptoms after 12 weeks, says PHAC review ([article](#))

Global Updates

The World Health Organization (WHO):

- Special Focus: Update on SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern ([Weekly epi update](#) p.7-11)
- Vaccine efficacy, effectiveness, and protection ([feature story](#))
- Updated guidance on myocarditis and pericarditis with mRNA vaccines ([statement](#))
- Director General notes that "We're in the midst of a growing two-track pandemic where the haves and have-nots within and between countries are increasingly divergent... Vaccines have never been the way of out this crisis on their own, but this current wave is demonstrating again just what a powerful tool they are to battle back against this virus... The global gap in vaccine supply is hugely uneven and inequitable." (Remarks at [July 12 media briefing](#))
- Pandemic year marked by spike in world hunger ([news release](#))
- Helps countries stay the course with new case surges, variants of concern ([feature story](#))

Other International News:

- What the World Health Organization really said about mixing COVID-19 vaccines ([article](#))
- Experts urge countries not to shun visitors with vaccines developed elsewhere ([article](#))
- Benefits of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines outweigh rare heart risks, says WHO ([article](#))
- All COVID restrictions to lift in England next Monday despite surge in infections ([article](#))
- More data needed as Pfizer looks to COVID-19 boosters, experts say ([article](#))
- Countries shouldn't order COVID boosters while others still need vaccines: WHO ([article](#))

SMDHU Resources

SMDHU [website](#) – recent changes include:

Main COVID-19

- Posted hyperlink to the new weekly [COVID-19 vaccine walk-in schedule](#) in main content
- Added guidance on vaccination for [individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19](#)
- Added guidance on self-isolation for [close contacts of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19](#) who have been fully vaccinated
- Updated information on [COVID-19 variants within the region](#)

Getting your Vaccination

- Posted hyperlink to the new weekly [COVID-19 vaccine walk-in schedule](#) in main content
- Added information about upcoming [local pop-up clinics](#) in Tiny Township and Clearview Township

Operating your Business Safely

- Updated COVID-19 guidance and information for [Outdoor Recreational Amenities](#)

Partners and Municipalities

- Updated COVID-19 guidance and information for [Outdoor Recreational Amenities](#)

New Public Health Alerts – None

Additional SMDHU resources:

- SMDHU [COVID-19 HealthSTATS page](#)
- [SMDHU Vulnerable Populations for COVID-19 Response Interactive Map](#) highlights vulnerable populations in Simcoe Muskoka.
- SMDHU Health Connection responds to calls and emails about COVID-19. Contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 ext. 5829 or via [email](#).
Health Connection Hours: Monday-Friday - 8:30am-6pm; Saturday - 8:30am-4:30pm

Credible Sources of Information

- [Ontario Ministry of Health](#)
- [Public Health Ontario](#)
- [Centre for Effective Practice COVID-19 Resource Centre](#)
- [Government of Canada](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)