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## COVID-19 Vaccine: Hot Spot Clinics in Bradford West Gwillimbury and Provision of Vaccine via Health Care Providers

**Attention:** Physicians, Walk In Clinics in Bradford, LHIN

**Date:** May 21, 2021

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### Promotion of COVID-19 hot spot immunization clinics in Bradford West Gwillimbury

As you know, Bradford West Gwillimbury (BWG) (postal code beginning L3Z) has been provincially designated as a hot spot, due to high rates of COVID-19 infection, hospitalization and death. As such, enhanced access to vaccination has been provided in BWG over the past number of weeks. While vaccine coverage has increased considerably, there is still a ways to go. Dose 1 coverage is currently 43% for the whole population and 56% for the 18+ population.

As of today, all individuals 12+ who live, work or go to school in BWG are eligible to receive dose 1 of COVID-19 vaccine. All eligible individuals can book directly via the [Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury website](#). Individuals 18+ can also book via the [Provincial booking site](#).

Individuals must be 12 years of age at the time of the appointment and either:

- A resident of Bradford West Gwillimbury (proof of address required)
- A person currently working in Bradford West Gwillimbury (proof such as employee ID, business card, pay stub or letter from employer required)
- A student who attends school in Bradford West Gwillimbury (verbal attestation of the school they attend)

Please promote these clinics to all patients in your practice and encourage them to book an appointment. If assistance is required for booking an appointment, please direct them to call:

- **Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit** - 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 ext. 5997 (Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., and Saturday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.)
- **Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury** - 905-775-5366 ext. 1100 (Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.)



Transportation support is available for those who need it:

- [BWG Transit](#) is available free and on-demand with service to the Bob Fallis arena - just call 905-775-7770 at least an hour before you need a ride. Service is available weekdays from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- [CT Link - Simcoe County Transportation Portal](#) can provide transportation for vaccine appointments only - book online or call 905-713-6596. Service within BWG is provided by CHATS. NOTE: rides must be booked in advance and there is no customer service available on evenings or weekends. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### **How do people book who book on the BWG website get an appointment for their second dose?**

We are currently contacting people by email who are due to receive their second dose soon and who have not already booked a second dose through the provincial booking system. The link for booking will also be added to our website by the end of this week for those we did not have an email address for.

Once the provincial system is updated to allow individuals to book their own second dose appointment we will let all Simcoe Muskoka primary care providers know via Public Health Alert. Until then the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit will continue to help with these bookings.

### **Provision of COVID-19 vaccines in your office**

We are currently in Phase 2 of the 3 Phase [Ontario COVID-19 vaccine plan](#). As we transition to Phase 3 in late summer and into the fall, distribution channels will shift from mass immunization clinics to primary care and pharmacies to ensure ongoing accessibility to all Ontarians going forward.

In preparation for this transition, we would encourage all primary care providers to onboard now with providing some COVID-19 vaccine in their practices. We are able to provide Moderna mRNA vaccine to offices for administration to patients. Please contact us at [vaccine@smdhu.org](mailto:vaccine@smdhu.org) to indicate your willingness and we will support you with all of the required information and training.

### **For immunization program information, support materials and forms refer to our website**

[www.smdhu.org/pcportal](http://www.smdhu.org/pcportal) or call the Immunization program, Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at 705-721-7520 or toll free 1-877-721-7520 ext. 8806.

### **Additional COVID-19 Vaccine Information**

For more information about the rollout of COVID-19 vaccine in our area, please refer to the SMDHU [COVID-19 Vaccine and Immunization](#) webpages.

For more information on the province's three-phased vaccine distribution implementation plan, please visit [COVID-19 vaccines for Ontario](#).

There are a number of COVID-19 resources and documents available through our Health Professional Portal at [www.smdhu.org/hpportal](http://www.smdhu.org/hpportal) as well as through [Public Health Ontario](#) and the [Government of Ontario](#).