



Town of East Gwillimbury

MEMORANDUM

To: Council

Date: November 16, 2021

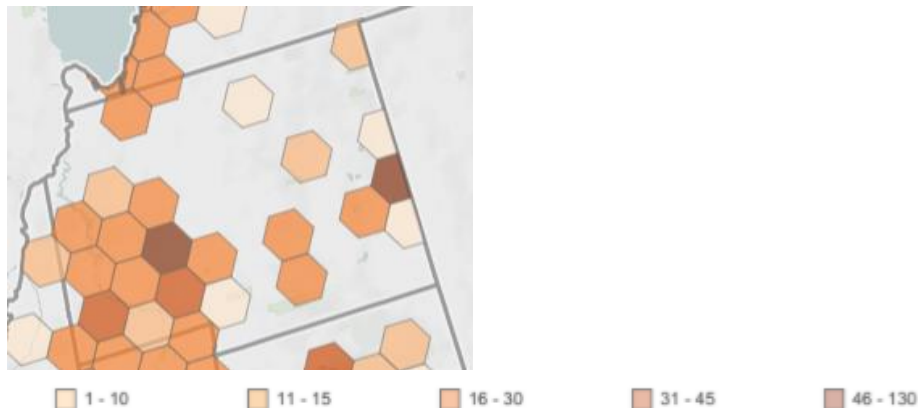
Subject: COVID-19 Update 2021-18

Origin: COVID-19 Control Group

The COVID-19 Control Group continues to meet and is in regular communication with Council, neighbouring municipalities, and York Region. The group also continues to work closely with provincial and York Region Public Health Officials regarding this public health crisis.

East Gwillimbury COVID-19 Data and Statistics

Residents can access COVID-19 data through York Region's website at www.york.ca/covid19. This information can be drilled down to show positive cases through an interactive dashboard for each municipality. This dashboard is available under *maps* at www.york.ca/covid19data. The below image showcases cases in EG throughout COVID-19.



East Gwillimbury Metrics	Oct 26, 2021	Nov 10, 2021
Total Confirmed Cases	1213	1226
Total Resolved/Recovered Cases	1203	1214
Total Active Cases	4	6
Total Confirmed Deaths	6	6
Total Cases Reported in last 7 days	5	7
Total Current Outbreaks (Institutional and workplace)	0	0
Total Closed Outbreaks	42	42
Total Variant Cases Identified	478	490

Provincial Updates

A Plan to Safely Reopen Ontario and Manage COVID-19 for the Long Term

On October 22, 2021 the Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health released [A Plan to Safely Reopen Ontario and Manage COVID-19 for the Long-Term](#), which outlines the province's gradual approach to lifting the remaining public health and workplace safety measures by March 2022. The plan will be guided by the ongoing assessment of key public health and health care indicators and supported by local and/or regional level governments.

On November 10, 2021, the government announced a pause on lifting capacity limits where proof of vaccination is required in the following settings:

- food or drink establishments with dance facilities (such as night clubs, wedding receptions in meeting/event spaces where there is dancing)
- strip clubs
- bathhouses and sex clubs

The existing capacity limits will remain in place for the next 28 days to monitor trends, indicators, data to better assess any impact on hospitalizations and intensive care unit admissions.

Ontario Expanding Booster Eligibility to More Ontarians

Based on the recommendation of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and in alignment with the National Advisory Committee on Immunization's advice, the province will begin offering booster doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to the following vulnerable populations if at least six months have passed since their last dose:

- Individuals aged 70 and over (born in 1951 or earlier);
- Health care workers and designated essential caregivers in congregate settings (including long-term care home and retirement home staff and designated caregivers);
- Individuals who received a complete series of a viral vector vaccine (two doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine or one dose of the Janssen vaccine); and
- First Nation, Inuit and Métis adults and their non-Indigenous household members.

Booster doses are being offered to these groups based on evidence of gradual waning immunity six months after receiving their second dose and a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

Effective Saturday, November 6 at 8:00 a.m., eligible individuals will be able to book their booster dose appointment through the [COVID-19 vaccination portal](#) or by calling the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre, directly through [York Region Public Health](#), through Indigenous-led vaccination clinics, select pharmacies, and primary care settings

Vaccine Certificate and Verify Ontario App

An enhanced digital vaccine certificate with an official QR code is now available for Ontarians to download from the [provincial website](#). The Verify Ontario app is also available, which allows businesses to quickly verify if visitors meet vaccine requirements. This app is also compatible with some other provincial vaccine certificates. Paper certificates are still valid and can be used to show proof of full vaccination.

All Individuals that are fully vaccinated can visit [ontario.ca/getproof](#) to obtain more information regarding the enhanced vaccine certificate with QR code.

For those Individuals who have not been fully vaccinated and/or 14 days have not passed since they were fully vaccinated, the QR code will not show a green check mark. They will need to [get fully vaccinated](#) and then wait 14 days for the QR code to work.

Provincial Vaccine Stats

Ontarians vaccinated as of November 10, 2021

Total Ontario population Since December 15, 2020	Number of people of all ages	Percentage Of 12+	Percentage of all ages
1 dose only	436,750	3%	3%
2 doses	11,107,758	85%	75%
Total	11,544,508	89%	78%

Municipal Impact

Council Operations

During the September 8, 2021, Council meeting, it was recommended that electronic Council meetings continue until provincial health and safety requirements permit the Council Chambers to be opened in a manner that does not require significant adjustments to facilities or significant use of Personal Protective Equipment. The proposed meeting structure continues with electronic meetings for the balance of 2021. Public health modeling suggests that a gradual return to in-person Council Chambers will most likely take place in Q1 2022 depending on trends, key indicators and government and health authority recommendations. Further updates will be provided in Q1 2022.

Policy Update

The Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy was distributed to staff on Wednesday September 29, 2021. To date, the Town is reporting a compliance rate of 95% (this includes full time, part time and seasonal staff).

Hybrid/Remote Work Policy

The Town is currently working in collaboration with regional and municipal partners to develop a Remote/Hybrid Working Policy and Program. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available.

EG Annual Holiday Toy and Food Drive

This year, East Gwillimbury will once again be hosting the Annual Toy and Food Drive. Collections will begin on November 22nd through December 17th. Items can be dropped off at the Civic Centre in the Atrium. Donations will also be accepted at EG fire stations. While monetary and gift card donations are preferred, non-perishable/non-expired food, new unwrapped toys and toiletry items will be accepted. Every effort will be made to ensure safe handling and distribution of donation items and all COVID-19 safety procedures will be followed.