



January 6, 2021

## **UPDATE TO ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

Hello, we have no further positive test results. We are awaiting one resident result. All the results that have been received are negative. If we have no negative cases and we have received all of the results Ottawa Public Health should declare the isolation on Dublin over as of tomorrow. Kilkenny will likely be off of isolation on Saturday January 9<sup>th</sup> as long as everything remains negative and we have no outstanding results.

Yesterday, Ottawa Public Health (OPH) informed us that the vaccinations for the residents has changed from Thursday January 7<sup>th</sup> to Friday January 8<sup>th</sup>. Ottawa Public Health will be providing a team to support the delivery of the vaccinations, with St. Pat's staff supporting the residents. We are very appreciative of this opportunity and look forward to getting the residents vaccinated.

Today, OPH has provided a new letter for the two designated caregivers who are eligible to receive the vaccine. Please review if you have not already booked your vaccine appointment. If you have booked your appointment or have had your first vaccination please let Reception know as we are tracking the number of designated caregivers who are getting vaccinated for reporting to the province.

Be well and stay safe,

***Janet Morris***  
President and CEO

January 5, 2021

**Urgent Request for Long-Term Care Home (LTCH) and Retirement Home (RH) registered essential caregivers to Receive COVID-19 Vaccine**

Dear registered essential caregivers,

I am so pleased to be able to share that you are going to be among the first people in Ontario to be protected with a Health Canada approved COVID-19 vaccine.

The Ottawa Hospital (TOH), with support from Ottawa Public Health (OPH) and under the guidance of the Ministry of Health, will be providing COVID-19 vaccine **urgently to** essential caregivers registered with long-term care (LTCH) and retirement homes (RH) as we anticipate receiving more vaccine deliveries in Ottawa in the coming weeks. COVID-19 has had a disproportionate effect on people providing care in LTC/RH homes. For this reason and to offer you protection against COVID-19, the first COVID-19 vaccinations in Ottawa are being prioritized for people providing care in LTCH and RH settings. While the Ministry and OPH both highly encourage essential caregivers to be vaccinated against COVID-19, it is important to note that vaccination is voluntary.

You, as a registered essential caregiver, are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. This vaccine roll-out will be on a first come first serve basis.

**I urge you to schedule an appointment by calling 613-691-5505 between 9am-4pm from Monday to Friday.** Please note appointments will be provided until all appointment times are filled.

Once your appointment is booked you will be advised where to go, how to receive assistance with transportation costs, and what is required for your appointment. Registered essential caregivers must provide the completed designation form and a health card will be required. At TOH, a regulated healthcare provider will review the vaccine with you in more detail and will also discuss your next appointment for the second and final vaccine, since two doses are required for full protection.

We understand that you may have questions about the COVID-19 Vaccine. OPH has launched a COVID-19 Vaccine page at [OttawaPublicHealth.ca/COVID19Vaccine](https://OttawaPublicHealth.ca/COVID19Vaccine) with

information on the Ottawa context, how the vaccine works, as well as precautions and considerations for residents to be aware of. For additional information please see the attached COVID-19 Vaccine Factsheet and visit [OttawaPublicHealth.ca/LTCVaccinePhase1](https://OttawaPublicHealth.ca/LTCVaccinePhase1) for Frequently Asked Questions and information video. For support in additional languages, please call 613-580-6744 and you may request the assistance of an interpreter. This service is available in over 170 different languages.

If you have concerns with being able to access this important vaccine, please speak to your LTCH or RH operator to explore possible solutions as it's important for you to be protected by receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. Ottawa residents can expect further updates and more detailed information on the COVID vaccine rollout for the general public as it becomes available from the Ministry of Health. I strongly encourage anyone who can receive the vaccine now to do so and to continue to protect themselves, their loved ones and our community.

Lastly, I want to personally thank you for your incredible dedication during this pandemic. Thank you for your participation in this vaccine campaign and your ongoing dedication in caring for some of our most vulnerable Ottawa residents.

Sincerely,



Dr. Vera Etches, MD, MHScM CCFP, FRCPC  
Medical Officer of Health  
Ottawa Public Health