



CP SCOOP – March 1st, 2021

MUNICIPAL UPDATES

Special Meeting of Council - The Town of Carleton Place Council will hold a special meeting via Zoom tomorrow, Tuesday, March 2nd at 6:00 p.m. to address policy issues to be considered as part of the Town's proposed new Development Charges By-law. The agenda and associated documents are available on the [Town's website](#). Members of the public can view the meeting online via [Zoom](#) or a live stream to the [Town Hall Facebook](#) page.

Reminder - Additional Bag of Waste Extension Period HAS ENDED – The Public Works Department has been notified by the Town's waste collection Contractor that there are a significant number of garbage bags at the curb today **over** the one (1) bag allowance that are not tagged with a Town issued waste collection sticker. **The last day for an additional bag of unstickered waste was last Friday, February 26th, 2021. Moving forward, we have reverted to one (1) unstickered bag of waste per week per household.** Any additional bags will require a sticker. Residents can continue to use previously issued green stickers. Stickers can be purchased at Town Hall and at Shoppers Drug Mart on McNeely Avenue.

PROVINCIAL UPDATES

[Ontario Keeping Seniors Safe and Socially Connected during COVID-19](#) - Funding will provide seniors with additional virtual programming - The Ontario government is investing \$14.3 million in 2020-21 to support nearly 300 Seniors Active Living Centres. These programs will deliver new virtual initiatives to help keep seniors safe and socially connected as they continue to self-isolate due to COVID-19.

[Ontario Activates Emergency Brake in Thunder Bay District Health Unit and Simcoe-Muskoka District Health Unit](#) - Nine (9) Public Health Regions Moving to New Levels in the COVID-19 Response Framework - The Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, is moving nine public health regions to new levels in the [Keeping Ontario Safe and Open Framework](#) (the "Framework"). This includes activating an "emergency brake" in Thunder Bay District Health Unit and Simcoe-Muskoka District Health Unit to move the regions to Grey-Lockdown to immediately interrupt transmission and contain community spread. Decisions were made in consultation with the local medical officers of health and are based on the trends in public health indicators and local context and conditions.

OTHER UPDATES

Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit – Vaccine Status Report – Week of March 1st -

Many people are calling to ask when we are vaccinating their age group. Please, help us keep our phone lines open! We can NOT take appointments for those over 80 yet. It is only specific groups who are directly invited that can currently book appointments for vaccine clinics. Check the [Ontario.ca](https://www.ontario.ca) website in the coming days for the approximate time your age group may be vaccinated. We are not vaccinating anyone from the community this week. Health care workers that are being vaccinated this week will be contacted through their employer for their instructions on booking appointments.

What was done last week?

- Continued second doses for residents in Long-Term Care Homes (LTCHs) and High-Risk Retirement Homes (HR RHs).
- Launched Stage 2 of the [Leeds, Grenville and Lanark COVID – 19 Vaccine Distribution and Administration Roll Out Plan](#).
- Some Stage 2 groups were invited to attend one (1) of the fixed clinic sites that opened (Kemptville, Almonte and Brockville).
- Target groups for the fixed sites include:
 - Staff and Designated Essential Caregivers of all Long-term Care Homes and Retirement Homes.
 - HCWs in the “Highest Priority Category”.
 - ALC patients in Hospitals. These were done in the hospital.
- Worked with two (2) local hospitals to co-host in-hospital clinics for their HCWs in the “Highest Priority Category”.
- From February 22nd to February 28th: 1842 individuals received their first dose of vaccine this week and 571 individuals received their second dose of vaccine.
- A **total of 4796** individuals have received at least one (1) dose of vaccine (either through the KHSC Clinic, the Ottawa Hospital Clinic or one of our mobile clinics) since our rollout started.

What is the plan for this week?

- Continued to roll out Stage 1 of the [Leeds, Grenville and Lanark COVID – 19 Vaccine Distribution and Administration Roll Out Plan](#) in LTCH and HR RHs.
- Continue to roll out Stage 2 of the [Leeds, Grenville and Lanark COVID – 19 Vaccine Distribution and Administration Roll Out Plan](#) in the fixed sites.
- Will focus on adding health care workers in the “Very High Priority Category” to the fixed sites.
- Begin going into Retirement Homes to provide first doses to residents.
- Launch the fourth fixed site (Smiths Falls).
- Priority groups will be invited to attend these clinics and will be provided with a unique booking code that will allow them to book directly online or through the health unit.
- Work with the Ministry to pilot an online appointment booking function.

What are we working on for next week?

- Continue to build capacity in our four (4) fixed sites.
- Target groups for the fixed sites include:
 - Staff and designated essential caregivers of all Long-Term Care Homes and Retirement Homes.
 - HCWs in the “Highest Priority Category” and the “Very High Priority Category”
- Roll out will continue with Stage 1 second doses for residents in LTCHs and HR RHs, and first and second doses for staff and essential caregivers in LTCHs and HR RHs.
- Prepare for next weeks’ opening for Adults over 80 and all Indigenous adults.

What can I do now?

- **Get informed.** Visit [COVID-19 Protection and Vaccine](#).
 - **Stay healthy.**
 - Follow COVID precautions: wear a mask, keep the 2m/6ft distance from others, follow the stay at home order.
 - Stay home if you are sick and contact the Assessment Centres for testing.
 - Ensure your other immunizations are up to date.
 - Discuss any concerns with your health care provider, link to consent form [COVID-19 Vaccine Screening and Consent Form \(gov.on.ca\)](#).
 - **Be patient.** It will take time for COVID-19 vaccines to be distributed to everyone in the community. Each group will be specifically identified and notified in advance to plan for vaccination. Information will be posted on our website, social media, local media, and through healthcare and community partners – you won't be missed!
 - When the fixed clinics are able to open to a wider population, including adults 80 years of age and older, booking instructions will be made known on the website, through social media, local radio and newspaper, local organizations, and health care providers.
 - **Adults 79 years and younger will begin in stage 5 of our rollout. We anticipate that this will begin in April.**
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Health Unit Warns of Spike in Overdoses in Brockville & Smiths Falls - The Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit has detected a spike in overdoses in the Brockville and Smiths Falls areas over the past eight (8) days. This spike has been identified through the Overdose Early Warning System that collects overdose information from our local hospitals and through the online overdose reporting tool.

The Health Unit, along with community partners, are cautioning the community that Leeds, Grenville and Lanark continue to grapple with a dangerously toxic substance supply. The Health Unit also reminds the community that naloxone may not be as effective in reversing overdoses due to the contamination of substances with other drugs such as benzodiazepines (ex. Xanax).

All overdoses are a medical emergency and calling 911 remains the most important step in saving someone's life. Anyone who suspects or witnesses an overdose should call 9-1-1. **The Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act provides some legal protection against simple drug possession charges for anyone who experiences, witnesses, or responds to an overdose and calls 9-1-1.**

The risk of an overdose can be reduced by following safer use practices:

- Calling 911 in the event of an overdose,
- Carry a naloxone kit,
- Avoid mixing substances,
- Use a small test dose first,
- Do not use alone but maintain COVID-19 precautions.

Harm reduction supplies (single use equipment, naloxone and drug checking test strips), and further access to services and referrals will continue to be offered throughout Leeds, Grenville and Lanark during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please visit the Health Unit website for more information:

<https://healthunit.org/health-information/drug-use-harm-reduction/>