

3,600 vaccines distributed as of Wednesday, March 24 at Cobourg Community Centre Mass Vaccination Site thanks to a true "Team Northumberland" effort



As our MPP David Piccini put it when he welcomed the Premier for a site visit, "good things happen when we come together as a community" and that was certainly demonstrated this past week at the Cobourg Community Centre where spirits were high and feedback from the seniors receiving the vaccine was extremely positive.

In an effort to get vaccine into the arms of local residents aged 80 and older as quickly as possible, a small army of area partners and volunteers worked diligently to set up and open the area's first Mass Vaccination Site in the Cobourg Community Centre (CCC).

And what a job they did! Between March 16 and March 24 over 3,600 souls were vaccinated—a significant kick-start to the local public health goal to eventually offer vaccine to everyone in step with the provincial prioritization plan.

While the community team, listed below, will officially hand over operation of the CCC Clinic to the local Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit in the coming days, the partners and volunteers will continue to support efforts moving forward as required. The Health Unit expects that COVID-19 vaccine will be distributed from the CCC site and the other area clinics now coming online across the region for the coming months. As the broader regional effort gets under way, please join us in celebrating a very successful Team Northumberland launch.

CCC Mass Vaccination Site launch team - Ontario Health Team of Northumberland and partners

- Northumberland Family Health Team
- Lakeview Family Health Team
- Trent Hills Family Health Team
- Northumberland Hills Hospital
- Community Care Northumberland
- Community Health Centres of Northumberland
- Northumberland County and Northumberland Paramedics
- Ganaraska Family Health Organization
- Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit
- Vaccination team (area pharmacists, nurses, doctors and paramedics, drawn from partners listed above)
- Town of Cobourg
- Cobourg Police Service
- Rotary Club of Cobourg and citizen volunteers



Ernie Johnson, a patient with the Community Health Centres of Northumberland, was among the first to receive a vaccine at the CCC. He's shown here on March 16 with Dr. Trisha Rys of the Cobourg Health Centre who administered his vaccine.

Trying to schedule a COVID-19 vaccine?

People born in 1946 or earlier may now book an appointment to receive the COVID-19 vaccine through the Ontario-wide booking system, which launched on Monday, March 15. Booking may be done online at www.ontario.ca/bookvaccine or by phone at 1-888-999-6488.

In their latest update on clinic locations available in our region the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit cautioned that "not all of the vaccination clinics planned across Ontario, including HKPRDHU, have been loaded into the system." Appointments are being opened up as vaccine becomes available. If you are trying to book for yourself or a loved one, and local availability is not yet showing in the system, please try again in future.

The vaccine will be available to all residents in due course over the coming months, and clinics will continue until everyone who wants a vaccine has received it. For the latest updates from HKPRDHU, see the Vaccination Clinics section of their website here: www.hkpr.on.ca/2021/03/12/vaccination-clinics/

Vaccines are making their way into arms, but until there is broader immunity public health precautions must remain

Stay strong. Stay apart. Stay safe. That's the message we continue to share and practice here at NHH. Personal protective measures work: masking, maintaining distance between yourself and others, and washing hands frequently. Vaccines are one additional layer of protection, but until there is broader population immunity, all of our basic public health precautions must continue to be observed.

Shout out to Northumberland's COVID-19 Assessment Centre teams

It's an anniversary no one ever wanted to celebrate but we're sending up a huge round of applause to our COVID-19 Assessment Centre teams, some of whom marked a year of operation this past month.

With more than 35,000 swabs now completed across all three sites, the NHH, Canton and Trent Hills COVID-19 Assessment Centre team members have become very good at helping to remove the stress of being tested.

From the screener who greets you as you arrive, to the registration clerk who scheduled and documents your visit, the nurses and Northumberland Community Paramedics who administer the COVID-19 test, the lab techs who process the specimen and the primary care providers who are there at the NHH Assessment Centre for those who have questions and concerns about symptoms – ALL of these individuals continue to be here for you and your loved ones, every step of the way.



Need a test? Have a question? Visit www.nhh.ca/covid-19 or call your local Assessment Centre directly: NHH – 905-377-7783; Canton – 905-377-7783; Trent Hills – 705-395-1801.