

## Today's Take-Aways

### Regional Updates

- The number of COVID positive patients in Renfrew County are not yet on the decline. In addition, we currently have the most hospital-based COVID patients since the start of the pandemic.
- There is a lot of patient flow activity taking place with hospitals working together to take on patients from facilities that are in over-capacity. While most patient transfers have been done within the region, some patients have even been sent to other regions such as Kingston to assist.
- The region is also seeing an increase in the number of critical care patients and volumes that are comparable to those seen in wave 2 of the pandemic. Currently there are 20 COVID patients in ICU in our region.

### COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

- Approximately 65% of individuals aged 80 and over have now been vaccinated in Renfrew County.
- **ALL** health care providers are also now eligible to receive their vaccine and have been booking their appointments. Over the next few weeks we will be sharing information about a promotion we will be running to help determine the number of PRH staff who have been vaccinated. Stay tuned for more details.
- There has been some confusion and frustration expressed by the 75-79 age group in relation to the fact that, despite Ontario opening up vaccine appointments to the 75-79 age group, those individuals in Renfrew County are only being registered for vaccination at this time and not booked into appointments. This is because we are using our current allocation of vaccine to vaccinate the remainder of our 80+ population. It is anticipated that bookings for the next age category may be able to start next week.
- The anticipated number of COVID-19 vaccine doses allocated to Renfrew County for the coming weeks is down a little. It is hoped that as the province receives more doses, those increased amounts will translate into an increased allocation for our region as well. Currently we have far more demand than supply.
- On a positive note, vaccination of our consenting 80+ patients will be taking place on Friday and we will be working with our Dialysis partners to ensure their patients are vaccinated early next week.

### Other News:

#### Finance

- The hospital will be receiving a new fundraising lottery license effective April 1st that will allow for a higher number of participants in our bi-weekly "ball" draws. Staff wishing to purchase additional balls to increase their chances of winning may do so at a cost of \$2 each by connecting with Human Resources.



# Foundation News

Pembroke Regional  
Hospital Foundation

Fondation de l'Hôpital  
Régional de Pembroke

PRH CATCH THE ACE WEEK 6  
**ESTIMATED JACKPOT**

**\$23,000**



This week's PRH *Catch the Ace* estimated jackpot is \$23,000! Tickets are on sale at the Mural Café on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9:30am until 2:00pm. You can also visit [www.prhcatchtheace.ca](http://www.prhcatchtheace.ca) to purchase your tickets.



PRH staff remember colleague Allison Schilling (Medical program) with a special tribute on our Tribute Wall. If you'd like to honour someone on the Tribute Wall contact the Foundation at (613) 732-2811 extension 7408 or by email at [foundation@prh.email](mailto:foundation@prh.email). Special pricing is available for staff.

**WEEK #5 WINNER!**

*Congratulations*

**BRENDA**

**FAIRFIELD**

**\$2,431**



Winning ticket  
#E-36116311  
Card #9 -  
6 of Spades

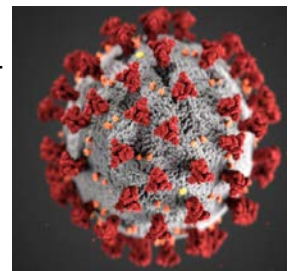


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March 2021



## Current Facts and Figures

- **Renfrew County:** 25 active cases (3 hospitalized, 3 in ICU), 4 deaths, 76,143 tests completed (as of March 22nd)
- **Ottawa:** 817 active cases, 459 deaths
- **Ontario:** 23,361 active cases, 7,280 deaths



# Everything you need to know about the COVID-19 vaccines

## Extension of the Second Dose Interval

Ministry of Health, March 19, 2021

Based on emerging evidence about the robust protection provided by the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccines currently authorized in Canada, the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) has strongly recommended that, due to the limited COVID-19 vaccine supply, regions should maximize the number of individuals benefiting from the protection provided by vaccines by extending the timeline for the second dose of vaccine up to four months after the first dose. Ontario has accepted and started following NACI's recommendations on March 10th, 2021 with some limited exceptions.

### More People Protected

Extending the interval between doses for up to four months will allow Ontario to rapidly accelerate its vaccine rollout and maximize the number of people receiving a first dose. Evidence suggests this will result in a reduction in infections, symptomatic disease, hospitalization, and ICU admissions. This means a lot less illness and a lot of lives saved.

By extending the dose interval, for every 1000 individuals that would have received a second dose this spring (providing marginal enhancement in their protection from severe illness) there are 1000 individuals whose protection will now rise from 0% to upwards of 70%.

This approach maximizes the number of people protected in the shortest possible time. More people protected moves us closer to healthier communities where we can spend time with our loved ones and open our businesses. Based on the expected supply of vaccines, an extended interval will allow Canada to provide a first dose of vaccine to 80% of all Canadians 16 years of age and over by the end of June.

### One Dose Provides Good Protection

The first dose of the COVID-19 vaccines available in Ontario provide substantial protection within 2-3 weeks of vaccination from symptomatic disease and severe COVID-19 illness and death. NACI considered several factors when making their recommendation, including: Review of recent scientific studies of efficacy and effectiveness, real world effectiveness demonstrating a sustained high level of protection after the first dose of vaccine, immunological principles and vaccine science, and modelling data from the Public Health Agency of Canada.

Data from both clinical trials and real-world effectiveness data have shown that individuals receive very good protection from one dose of vaccine. Data from an AstraZeneca clinical trial indicated that delaying the second dose by at least 12 weeks resulted in a higher efficacy against symptomatic disease than when there was a shorter interval between doses. Experience with other multi-dose vaccines have shown that delays between doses do not result in a reduction in protection or a reduction in the durability of the immune response.

### Plan to Monitor & Evaluate

There are plans in place to ensure that extension of the second dose interval continues to be the right choice and the one that will have the greatest impact on the population's protection from COVID-19. The vaccine effectiveness of the first dose will be monitored closely and the decision to delay the second dose will be continuously assessed based on surveillance and effectiveness data and post-implementation study designs. Effectiveness against variants of concern will also be monitored closely.

Canada has secured enough vaccines to ensure that a second dose will be available to every adult who wishes to be vaccinated, to ensure completion of the vaccine series.

# Guardian Angels

Dr. Nathaniel Abutu



Pembroke Regional  
Hospital Foundation



Fondation de l'Hôpital  
Régional de Pembroke

## EXCITING NEW OPPORTUNITY AT Pembroke Regional Hospital

PRH is looking to fill **TWO (2)**

**PERMANENT PART-TIME**

**REGISTERED NURSE** Positions

in the **OPERATING ROOM/PACU TEAM**

**In this new position, you will:**

- ❖ Start a career with PRH within the Operating Room and Post Anesthetic Care Units
- ❖ Receive a Certificate in Perioperative Nursing (tuition reimbursed on a return for service agreement)
- ❖ Participate in a 4 to 6 month mentorship program

If you are looking to start a rewarding nursing career, with a collaborative team, please check out our job posting and apply at: [www.pemreghos.org/hr](http://www.pemreghos.org/hr)



## PRH Staff Association Treat Day Featuring 70g Bag Of Ottawa Valley Roast House Coffee

Paddler's Portage description: Let this smooth blend lift your spirits with its subtle notes of chocolate and delightful clean finish. Whether you're in the office or out for your weekend adventure, this blend will help you conquer even the toughest Mondays. Adventure awaits!

### Distribution Times/Locations:

**Friday, April 9th,**

**11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**(The Lunch Box, Tower A, 2nd Floor)**

**3 p.m. to 4 p.m.**

**(B446, Tower B, 4th Floor Link)**



#### COVID-19 MEASURES / Treat Day Etiquette

1. Pre-orders are strongly advised, especially for groups. Individuals can pre-order too.
2. Pre-order lists must be emailed to [carolyn.levesque@prh.email](mailto:carolyn.levesque@prh.email) by **Monday, April 5th**.
3. Pre-orders can be picked up by group representatives during the distribution times on April 9th.
4. If you don't pre-order, you CAN still pick up your treat on distribution day WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.
5. Please note that groups who pre-order are responsible for ensuring staff on their lists get their treats.
6. To ensure we have enough treats for those who want them, please refrain from taking a portion if you don't want one. *Thank you*

