

## Today's Take-Aways

### COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

• Following extensive planning and collaboration both internally and with the Renfrew County and District Health Unit and other health care partners we launched our first COVID-19 vaccination clinic on Wednesday with the vaccination of 172 Marianhill staff and essential caregivers. By the time the current schedule of clinics is complete at the end of day on March 1st we will have provided nearly 1,100 doses of the Pfizer vaccine including approximately 300 to our own staff who are in the highest priority classification. In fact, with two available doses at the end of Wednesday's clinic we were able to vaccinate two of our staff – the first being Laura Behnke who is a Patient Services Attendant in the Emergency Department.

By the end of March, all health care workers are to be vaccinated which is why it's imperative that everyone who wants to receive a dose of the vaccine gets their consent form in now.

At this stage we don't know our clinic schedule for next week but we will be scheduling these once we have confirmed details on our next vaccine shipment.

### Regional Updates

• New province-wide guidelines for screening school-age children are impacting staffing. We are hoping to receive revised guidelines for our Health Unit however until that happens, everyone is expected to adhere to the new guidelines and stay home if someone in your household has one of the symptoms until that individual receives a swab that comes back negative.

• Renfrew County hospitals are implementing pre-op testing for all patients undergoing surgery under general anaesthesia. It should be noted that, despite this, it will not impact the surgical booking.

### Occupational Health and Safety

• As of February 22nd, the provincial government changed the screening for all School and Child Care settings. A child will fail the screening with a single new or worsening symptom and they must stay home **without exemption** until:

- They receive a negative test
- They receive an alternative diagnosis by a health care professional
- It has been ten days since their symptoms started and they feel better



**Registered Nurse Christine Rossi from Marianhill, left and Dr. Bruce Strader prepare to vaccinate Patient Services Attendant Laura Behnke from the Emergency Department - our hospital's first staff member to receive the vaccine.**

## Today's Take-Aways...Continued

Along with this, any/all asymptomatic household contacts must also self-isolate **“without exception, even for essential reasons.”** Currently this applies to all health care workers and you must follow the directive until the hospital receives an exemption.

If your child becomes symptomatic and you would like them tested, please call Occupational Health at extension 8200 to book an appointment.

### Human Resources

- Starting today the 2020 T4 forms are available on the employee self-serve site. If you are having difficulty logging into employee self-serve (in the Staff Resources section of the hospital's website), please contact IT. Please note that anyone currently on leave will receive their T4 by mail.



Above: At Wednesday's clinic for Marianhill staff and essential caregivers, Pharmacy Technicians Krista Fraize, left, and Amy Warlich, were on hand to pre-load the vaccine doses.

Below: Pre-loaded vaccine doses await distribution to those doing the vaccinations.



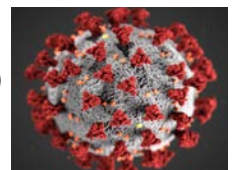
## First COVID-19 Vaccine Doses Arrive At PRH

Pharmacy team members Tina Davidson, left, and Grace Weisenberg, far right, were on hand Tuesday afternoon to receive the first shipment of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine from Sherry Davidson, and Christine Brannan of the Renfrew County and District Health Unit in preparation for the launch of our on-site vaccination clinics.

The first clinics were scheduled for the vaccination of long-term care staff and essential caregivers as well as a priority retirement home and the highest priority health care workers. Congratulations to everyone involved in the planning for these.

## Current Facts and Figures

- **Renfrew County:** 17 active cases, 2 deaths, 63,507 tests completed (as of Feb. 22)
- **Ottawa:** 457 active cases, 439 deaths
- **Ontario:** 16,987 active cases, 6,916 deaths



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

## **Q: How safe are the new COVID-19 vaccines?**

Only vaccines that Health Canada determines to be safe and effective are approved for use in Canada and available in Ontario.

After independent and thorough scientific reviews for safety, efficacy and quality, Health Canada has approved two vaccines for use in Canada: Pfizer-BioNTech (December 9, 2020) and Moderna (December 23, 2020).

This means the vaccines:

- were tested on a large number of people through extensive clinical trials
- have met all the requirements for approval, including safety
- will be monitored for any adverse reactions that may occur after vaccination and appropriate measures will be taken

Both vaccines which were manufactured in Belgium, require two doses for your body to develop adequate immunity. After two doses, they are expected to be 94-95% effective, which will lower how much of the virus can spread in the population, help build herd immunity and stop the pandemic.

## **Q: How were the COVID-19 vaccines developed so quickly?**

Creating a new vaccine typically takes years. However, the progress on COVID-19 vaccines happened quickly for many reasons, including:

- being informed by decades of research on other strains of coronavirus prior to COVID-19, such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Sars-CoV (SARS)
- advances in science and technology
- international collaboration among scientists, health professionals, researchers, industry and governments
- increased dedicated funding

## **Q: What has to happen before a vaccine can be distributed in Ontario?**

Before any vaccines are available in Ontario, they:

- undergo rigorous clinical trials to ensure they are safe and effective
- are evaluated and authorized for use by Health Canada, using rigorous standards

## **Q: How will Ontario ensure vaccines remain safe?**

Ontario's plan to make sure vaccines remain safe for Ontarians includes:

- securely and safely transporting and storing vaccines at required conditions and temperatures
- establishing safe clinic spaces to give people immunizations, including providing the required training to those administering vaccines
- monitoring for any adverse reactions or side effects that may occur after vaccination and taking appropriate measures, including working with the federal government and other provinces and territories

Health Canada will continue to monitor all authorized vaccines to ensure they continue to be safe and effective.

# GRATITUDE

## Environmental Services

- Thanks to Annie and Roberta for giving 110% effort all the time. The two of you go above and beyond so often. We really appreciate it! *Housekeeping team*
- Thanks to the housekeeping staff. I know they are trialing different shifts though nuclear medicine and DI. Heather and Brenda F. explained what was going on and touched base on what times would be best based on our schedules. Thanks for checking in and keeping us in the loop. *Katie Fadock*
- Thank you to Tina and Bonnie who took the time to move 28 HLS empty bins from our loading dock to store them in Tower D until needed. This helped to clear up the space for our other deliveries and improve the movement through our back hallway. We really appreciate the time and effort you took to do this! *Lisa, Dave, Donna & Chester*
- A huge thank you to Mark and the maintenance team for the great shoe rack in the ICU locker room. This will help our housekeepers with cleaning and takes away a safety hazard! Nice job. *Dave Bromley*
- I would like to express my gratitude to **Gabrielle Burnham, Social Work**, for all of her support to Medical 3B. Her hard work and caring attitude should not go unnoticed. We greatly appreciate her help. *Kelly and Kirsten*

## Clinical Administration

- Thank you to **Jeremy Connor (IT)** for all your assistance with the Zoom and Microsoft Teams platforms. Your help has made all of our virtual meetings possible!
- Thank you to the **Clinical Administration Team - Katie Hollahan, Tyler Graveline and Alycia Fraser** for supporting the OHT work and for all your assistance with the COVID vaccinations this week. Your hard work and flexibility does not go unnoticed and is very much appreciated. Such a great team!!

# Foundation News



## NEW CATCH THE ACE DRIVE THRU LOCATIONS



WWW.PRHCATCHTHEACE.CA

775 Pembroke Street East  
1336 Pembroke Street West (Sani-Sol)  
3468 Petawawa Blvd (Beyond Nutrition)

Catch the Ace 2.0 has two new cash sale locations!  
You can now buy tickets in person at  
Beyond Nutrition (3468 Petawawa Blvd.) or  
Sani-Sol (1336 Pembroke St. West) in addition to our  
Drive Thru location at 775 Pembroke St. East.

You can also visit [www.prhcatchtheace.ca](http://www.prhcatchtheace.ca)  
to purchase tickets.



The *Connect to Care Radiothon* is happening March 4th!

To make a donation you can either call our hotline from  
9am-5pm March 4th (613-732-2811 ext. 7408) or donate  
online at [www.prhfoundation.com/radiothon/](http://www.prhfoundation.com/radiothon/)  
and by doing so you can help keep  
Cancer Care close to home.

# PRH Staff Recognized For Achieving Long Service Milestones In 2020

Congratulations to the following staff who achieved long service milestones in 2020. Those whose milestones were 5, 10 and 15 years of service will receive a certificate and a service pin. Those who achieved milestones of 20 years of service and above will also receive a certificate and service pin along with a gift of their choosing (either monetary or from an online catalogue). All recipients will receive their certificates and pins through their department. Monetary gifts will appear on the March 5th pay, and gifts from Rembrandt will be delivered when they arrive.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, this year's *Retirement and Long Service Luncheon* could not be held.

## 5 Years of Service

Shannon Becker Morrow, Holly Carswell, Tonya Chandler, Linda Dombroskie, Kayla Emmerson, Emily Fardy, Tara Gallagher, Jana Hartwig, Katie Hollahan, Kevin Juillette, Jennifer Kennedy, Sheldon Lanthier, Brittany Lauzon, August McRae, Amanda Mitton, Marc Rheume, Lindsay Roosen, Karen Schaffel, Melanie Schafhauser, Miranda Schroeder, Angela Stiller, Jamie Lynn Thibeault and Karen Thompson.

## 10 Years of Service

Tracey Baxter, Elizabeth Burt, Alicia M. Clouthier, Kathryn Fadock, Claudia Flietstra, Krista Fraize, Denise Graham, Darlene Keuhl, Heather Kilius, Nancy King, Monique Lafrance-Fleury, Rachel Lawrence, Emily Lebel, Lisa McKay, Marie-Eve Quirion, Christina Rey-McIntyre and Lise Vaillancourt.

## 15 Years of Service

Tamara Brand, Melissa Breen, Beth Brownlee, Nancy Corriveau, Bella De Wit, Aimee Dunn, Jodi Hagarty, Karen Hammel, Nicole Jansen, Jodi Julius, Glenda Klawitter, Jennie Mainville, Helen McLeod, Sarah Mellish, Roberta Mielke, Ashley Moss, Lori-Lynn Phinney, May Seto, Sonya Silver, Gregory Verch and Amy Warlich.

## 20 Years of Service

Deanna Burton, Lynn Chester, Nancy Green, Janice Gust, Eric Lee, Jennifer Lemay, Carolyn Levesque, Shelley Mask, Lori McCauley, Kerry McDonald, Jennifer Nittynen, Devon Recoskie, Candace Robertson and Betty Ann Spence.

## 25 Years of Service

Constance Chippure, Jean Kulas and Pamela Morris.

## 30 Years of Service

Sharon Allain, Jennifer Anthony, Al Baker, Kemmel Graham, Jeris Johnston, Crystal Kranz, Maren Lloyd, Shelley Pleau, Leah Williams and Corby Zadow.

## 35 Years of Service

Wendy Briscoe and Cindy McCaughan.