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## **Haliburton County Community Vaccination Information**

The Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team, Haliburton Family Medical Centre, Haliburton County Paramedic Service, the County of Haliburton, and Haliburton Highlands Health Services are working collaboratively with the local public health agency to finalize plans for a community vaccination hub in Haliburton County.

While no firm timeline or clinic information is available at this time, the partners recognize that community members are seeking local information about what they can expect in terms of immunization plans and locations.

While the supply of vaccines into Haliburton County is guided by the availability and determination of priority groups by the province, the local health teams are working diligently with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPRDHU) to plan for the arrival of vaccines for the community.

"We know that many of our residents are anxiously awaiting details on the availability of the vaccine locally, and we appreciate everyone's patience as we wait for the vaccine supply to arrive," said Dr. Ian Gemmill, Acting Medical Officer of Health for the HKPRDHU. "The province has determined the timelines and priority populations that will receive vaccine and the local public health agency is working closely with all of our health care partners to finalize how we will get the vaccine in arms once it arrives."

Currently, the community partners are following prioritization guidelines from the Ministry of Health, which means that after local healthcare workers are immunized, the next priority group for vaccination will be residents over the age of 80. More information about prioritization across Ontario is available at Ontario.ca/CovidVaccine.

Information regarding when, where, and how to book appointments for vaccination will follow in the coming weeks. This information will be shared with residents through the newspapers, local radio stations, social media, and health care partner websites. At the moment, there is no wait list process to receive the vaccine and partners are grateful for the patience of community members who are anxious to receive immunization.

Until vaccines are more widely available, partners urge the community to continue to follow all public health measures to help stop the spread of COVID-19, including staying home as much as possible, practicing physical distancing, wearing a mask or face covering in public spaces, and getting tested for COVID-19 if they are experiencing any of the symptoms.

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Members of the media seeking additional information should contact:

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