



# **SPEAKING NOTES**

## **COVID-19 Community Update – Chair Karen Redman July 16, 2021**

### **Welcome**

Good morning everyone, and welcome to this week's community update.

I want to begin by echoing the solidarity and support we have seen across the Region of Waterloo for the Baitul Kareem Mosque. I cannot imagine the impact and trauma experienced by our local Muslim community, including many of our staff members here at the Region. We are thinking of them after this distributing and hateful act.

I also want to extend our thoughts to the City of Barrie as they deal with the aftermath of a tornado.

Today, Ontario enters step 3 of the provincial roadmap to reopening. This is only possible due to the incredible progress made on vaccinations. This includes the mass vaccination clinic at Bingemans last weekend that helped us set new records, but it also includes our other clinics, mobile teams, primary care physicians and pharmacies – all integral parts of making our community safe. Thank you to all the volunteers and staff, as well as the residents who are protecting themselves and their community by getting vaccinated.

But we aren't at the finish line. Step three brings us closer to a full reopening, but we aren't there yet.

We need 80 percent of the eligible population aged 12 and over to have received their first dose, and 75 percent to have received their second dose.



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If you aren't yet fully vaccinated, please get your first or second dose. If you are, think about how you can help your neighbour, friend or family member get vaccinated. Every dose really dose count.

We have one enforcement update from the last media update, with a 240 dollar ticket issues by Corporate Security at 143 Concession Street in Cambridge for failing to comply with the face covering by-law.

As discussed last week, we also had a multi-ministry provincial inspection team in the Region. They inspected 76 local businesses and provided education on the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Reopening Ontario Act.

Locally, the COVID-19 Safe Ambassador Program will continue to help employers mitigate health and safety issues. More than one thousand small and medium-sized businesses have already participated in this program, a partnership between the Region and the local chambers of commerce.

As we move to step 3, it is important that we stay vigilant and continue to follow public health measures. For more on those measures, and on the COVID-19 case rates in the region, I'll turn things over to our Medical Officer of Health Dr. Wang.

## **Update from Dr. Wang.**

Thank you, Dr. Wang.

Bruce Lauckner, Region of Waterloo CAO will now provide an update on the vaccine rollout, on behalf of Deputy Hilton.

## **Update from Bruce Lauckner.**



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Thank you, Bruce.

I will now turn things over to our guest Patrick Gaskin, CEO of Cambridge Memorial Hospital, to share what he is seeing in the community and the work that Cambridge Memorial is doing to help our community through this pandemic.

## **Update from Patrick Gaskin.**

Thank you, Patrick. We will now take media questions.

## **Media Q&A**

### **Extro**

Thank you everyone for joining us today. We hope to see you again next Friday. Have a safe and healthy weekend.