



SPEAKING NOTES

COVID-19 Community Update – Karen Redman Friday, Aug. 6, 2021

Welcome

Good morning everyone, and welcome to this week's community update. This week, we welcome Associate Medical Officers, doctor Rabia Bana, who's filling in for doctor Hsiu-Li Wang, and doctor Julie Emili.

I'm also excited to welcome this week's guest, Ian McLean, President and CEO of the Greater Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber of Commerce to talk about the success of the COVID-19 Safe Ambassador Program, which has supported small and medium-sized local businesses with free education and one-on-one guidance to minimize the risk of COVID-19. This first of its kind program has been an important resource in helping to keep our community safe during the reopening.

While our community enjoys a greater sense of normalcy with expanded indoor settings and capacity limits as part of Step Three, I'm so pleased to see community members continuing to follow public health measures. These simple acts, such as wearing a face covering, physical distancing, staying home when you feel unwell and getting fully vaccinated are helping to keep our community safe.

Our actions have consequences, and the power to protect our community and save lives.

Let's continue to make responsible decisions. Before you choose to engage in an activity, think about the impact to your community: the businesses who are able to get back to serving their customers and communities, children who are able to go back to school and experience a more normal education,



SPEAKING NOTES

and all the frontline staff in places such as hospitals and long-term care, who have endured so much during this time.

What we do matters.

We all want the same thing: for our community to be open, and stay open. It's going to take all of us to make that happen. If we work together by continuing to enjoy what Waterloo Region has to offer safely, and getting vaccinated, we can continue to move forward, not backward, as a community out of this pandemic.

If you haven't been fully vaccinated, and are eligible to receive a second dose, please consider doing so as soon as you can. Make it a part of your plans this weekend. Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 has never been easier, with walk-ins for both first and second doses available at all public clinics.

Youth and families are also invited to attend vaccination clinics at schools across the region. Today and tomorrow, Resurrection Catholic Secondary School in Kitchener, and Monsignor Doyle Secondary School in Cambridge are open from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. for youth and families to get vaccinated.

Tomorrow, a mobile vaccination bus at the Fairview Mall bus terminal is also offering first and second doses without an appointment, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Take advantage of these many opportunities. Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect you and your community from COVID-19 and the Delta variant.



SPEAKING NOTES

For the enforcement update, Grand River Transit issued two tickets for failing to comply with the Face Covering By-law, one at the Fairway station and one at the Allen Station. The tickets carry a fine of \$240 each.

I'll now pass it to Associate Medical Officer of Health Dr. Rabia Bana for an update.

Update from Dr. Bana

Thank you, Dr. Bana.

Deputy Chief Shirley Hilton will now speak to the Region's vaccine roll-out.

Update from Shirley Hilton.

Thank you, Deputy Chief Hilton.

We will now hear from this week's guest, Ian McLean from the Greater Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber of Commerce about the COVID-19 Safe Ambassador Program.

Update from Ian McLean

Thank you Ian. We will now open it up to questions from media.

Media Q&A

Extro

Thank you everyone for joining us today. Have a safe and healthy weekend.