



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

JULIE DZEROWICZ

Member of Parliament
Davenport

COVID VACCINES SAVE LIVES

MAY 2021

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

@JULIEDZEROWICZ

Davenport friends and neighbours: amis et voisins:

As I sit down to write this letter, we are in the midst of a devastating third wave. Ontario has just recorded its highest number of cases in one day. We are all in what we hope and pray will be the final stretch.

And we are not alone; all over the world—from Europe to Latin America and everywhere in-between—variants of COVID are causing distressing third and fourth waves with deadly outcomes for a much broader and younger part of the population. The purpose of this letter is to encourage as many Davenport residents as possible to get vaccinated.

The race is on between the rapid spread of the variants and vaccine distribution. At the time of writing, we are expecting to receive 50 million doses by the end of June, and 110 million by the end of September.

Get vaccinated as soon as possible

Thanks to unprecedented global collaboration and lots of targeted funding, vaccines were developed in record time without skipping any safety steps. Canada secured more doses per capita, from 7 different candidate vaccines, than any other country. Four have been approved by Health Canada, and there will be enough doses for every Canadian who wants a first vaccine shot, and many a second shot, by Canada Day.

At a time when all countries are seeking COVID-19 vaccines, Canada is currently in the top three in the G7 and G20 in getting vaccines. Once vaccines arrive in Canada, they are sent to the provinces for distribution. It is the provinces that determine the priorities and plan for how the vaccines will be distributed.

To watch some short informative videos on COVID vaccines, visit <http://bit.ly/HealthCanadaVids>

As many first doses as possible

The National Advisory Council on Immunization (NACI), an independent body of Canada's top medical and public health professionals, advises provinces on vaccine distribution based on the most up-to-date scientific data. NACI has determined that the best plan is to get as many people as possible their first shot, even if it means delaying some second shots (by up to four months). According to co-chair Dr. Catherine Hankins, the science shows more first doses mean much less spread of the virus overall, keeping everyone safer.

In early April, NACI determined that based on contracts and scheduled vaccine deliveries, most Canadians could receive their second dose sooner than four months.

To consult with the most up-to-date resources on vaccines, created by the independent doctors and scientists at Health Canada, visit Canada.ca/covid-vaccines

Download the COVID Alert App

The COVID Alert App notifies you if you have come in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID. 6.4 million Canadians have already downloaded the app and I encourage you to do so as well.

Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit

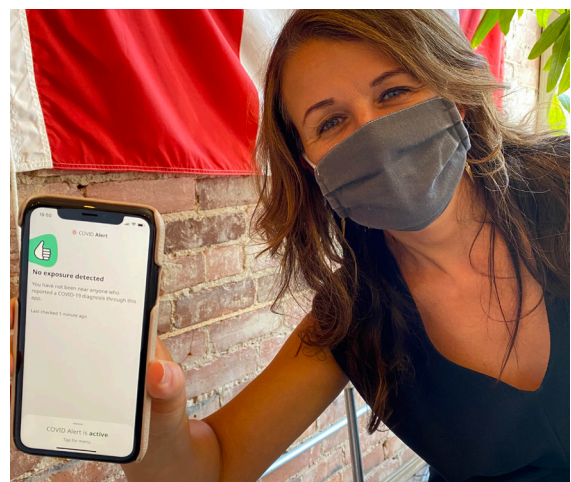
Despite incredible advocacy from our health professionals, at time of printing the Ontario government has not yet mandated paid sick days. The federal government is helping workers who aren't guaranteed sick leave by their employers, through the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB).

It guarantees four weeks of sick pay, is easy to apply for, and delivers funds quickly to those with direct deposit. To apply, search for "CRSB" online.

We have all sacrificed too much and have come too far to give up now. Please continue to do your part, and when your turn for a vaccine comes up, please don't hesitate. COVID vaccines are safe, they work, and they save lives.

It is an honour and privilege to serve you Davenport.

Julie Dzerowicz, Member of Parliament, Davenport



COVID Alert helps keep you safe. Download from the App Store or Google Play today!

WHAT DAVENPORT RESIDENTS ARE SAYING



I am 74 years old and I got my first dose of the COVID vaccine on March 20. Besides a little pain on my arm which is normal, I have no side effects...I am doing fine! Just waiting for the second dose.

Don't be afraid. It's good for you! Have you thought, if we all get vaccinated, we can return to our "normal" life and hug our loved ones?

Elisabete Dias

Apanhei a vacina do COVID a 20 de Março. So tive dores no braço, o que é normal. Não tive nenhuns sintomas e sinto-me perfeitamente bem. Estou só à espera da segunda dose para Julho.

Não tenha medo. Será bom para si. Já pensou que quantas mais pessoas tomarem a vacina, mais depressa podemos voltar á nossa vida "normal" e abraçar a nossa família e os nossos amigos?

Why was it important for you to get the vaccine?

My grandchildren live in BC. I am determined to celebrate my granddaughter's 5th birthday with her, so I was thrilled to get my first vaccine on March 31.

What would be your message to those who are hesitant to get the vaccine?

Do it! Getting the vaccine is essential to bringing us back together.

Claudia Moore

When the opportunity to get vaccinated came my way, I jumped on it as it's the biggest step that I can personally take to remove the threat of COVID, not only for my own safety, but for those around me, my family and friends, and those who support me as essential workers.

We should always follow the science. By understanding the difference between correlation and causality, and by reviewing the actual numbers in context, we see that there is simply no logical reason to not be vaccinated with whichever brand you are offered.

Laurie-Shawn Borzovoy



I love being here at my seniors residence. They take good care of us and I've always felt safe. I feel even safer having had two doses of Moderna.

Wendy Deacon

I am 79 years old and my husband is 80 years old. We both received the COVID vaccine on March 18. We are both very happy. We had no negative reactions afterwards and we are doing fine. We both hope to be able to get the second dose on July 8. Soon after we will be able to see our family, visit friends and travel. We encourage you to be vaccinated.

Eu tenho 79 anos e o meu marido 80 anos. Ambos apanhamos a vacina do COVID no dia 18 de Março. Estamos os dois muito felizes. Não tivemos nenhuma reação negativa e sentimo-nos muito bem. Vamos levar a segunda dose a 8 de Julho. Depois poderemos estar com a nossa família, visitar amigos e viajar. Encorajamos a tomar a vacina.

Regina Jordão e Elísio Jordão



Having gotten the vaccine in December was a huge gift. I feel incredibly grateful knowing that the residents I am around daily and my sister (who I live with) are more protected from me being vaccinated.

To anyone that's hesitant about getting the vaccine: there is so much misinformation in the world and we must take it upon ourselves to do our own research outside of social media platforms and the opinions of friends. I put my trust in science and it's been a great choice for me.

Emily O'Reilly, staff member at a seniors residence



After 11 months of dealing with my husband's aggressive cancer treatments and keeping my family safe from COVID, getting the vaccine this week as his primary caregiver gave me such a profound sense of relief.

It's nothing short of a medical miracle that we have effective vaccines at this stage of the pandemic. The global cooperation it took to get here is one of the few pieces of news that gives me real hope. I know we may be approaching the darkest hour of the fight but hopefully securing more vaccines for more people will help turn the tables on this virus once and for all.

Sarah Martin (and Xavier)



Key Messages from Health Canada

Did you know?

Only vaccines that are safe, effective, and of the highest quality or authorized by Health Canada. Canada is recognized around the world for its high standards and rigorous vaccine review process.

Mild to moderate side effects are very common and can last a few days. These side effects are a sign that your body is building protection against COVID. Severe side effects are very rare, and Canada has a strong system in place to monitor for them.

For the latest from Health Canada, visit: www.canada.ca/en/health-canada.html