

Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit. (HKPR)

“In the first half of May, the Province did redirect more COVID-19 vaccines to hot-spot regions in order to get more people vaccinated there.” Dr Bocking says. “This made sense, in light of the higher number of cases and wider community spread in these regions. With increasing supplies of vaccine in May, the local Health Unit has been receiving its fair share of vaccine and has been able to provide a first dose of COVID-19 vaccine to more than half of our residents.”

To date 74,661 vaccines have been administered in the HKPR region with 68,940 receiving one dose and 5,721 having received two doses.

Dr Bocking says our vaccine supply is expected to increase into June, as Canada receives more doses of the Pfizer vaccine in coming weeks. In early June she expects we will receive approximately 9,300 doses per week of Pfizer vaccine, as well as quantities of the Moderna vaccine.

“However, there is still a mismatch in terms of the number of people wanting a vaccine and the amount of supply that is available.” Dr Bocking explains, “Even as our vaccine supplies have increased, the number of people eligible for a dose has also expanded at a quicker pace. Some people are also requiring second doses, so vaccines have to be directed there too.”

The Health Unit is running mobile vaccination clinics in congregate settings and other places where it is difficult for residents to get out to clinics for the vaccine. Local paramedics/EMS have also been providing COVID-19 vaccines to housebound residents over the past few weeks according to Dr Bocking. Some primary care providers and select pharmacies are also offering COVID-19 vaccines.