

This copy is for your personal non-commercial use only. To order presentation-ready copies of Toronto Star content for distribution to colleagues, clients or customers, or inquire about permissions/licensing, please go to: www.TorontoStarReprints.com

LOCAL : NEWS

Hundreds of youth enter contest to 'StickItToCOVID'

 [Set Kawartha Lakes as My Local news](#)

By **This Week**

Fri., Oct. 15, 2021

 2 min. read

A trio of local youth have discovered there's added incentive to getting COVID-19 vaccines, not only in being better protected against the virus but also for winning prizes.

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit's #StickItToCOVID contest saw close to 400 entries from youth aged 12 to 17 years from Haliburton and Northumberland counties and the City of Kawartha Lakes after receiving their first or second COVID-19 vaccine dose by the end of September.

A 15-year-old male Northumberland County student captured the main prize of a \$250 Apple gift card. A 16-year-old female student and 15-year-old male student, both from Kawartha Lakes, took home prizes of a \$150 Amazon gift card and a \$100 Amazon gift card respectively.

"We congratulate these three individuals and all youth who entered the contest and rolled up their sleeves for COVID-19 vaccine," said Medical Officer of Health Dr. Natalie Bocking. "It's important that youth ages 12 years and older get vaccinated. Even though they may not have severe symptoms of COVID-19, they can be an important driver for the spread of the virus to other people, especially those more vulnerable to the virus due to age and medical reasons."

The health unit continues to hold mobile and pop-up COVID-19 vaccination clinics throughout the region including those at high schools in Fenelon Falls, Brighton, Lindsay, Port Hope and Cobourg, which are open to students, school staff, parents, family members and community members. Appointments are not necessary. Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are available.

Currently, 86.3 per cent of eligible residents aged 12 years and older have received one dose of vaccine, and 81.5 per cent have both doses. This means approximately 24,000 people are still eligible for a first or second dose of COVID-19 vaccine. To reach a 90-per-cent overall vaccination rate for the area — a revised target set by the province — roughly half of these individuals would need to get vaccinated. Bocking said this target is achievable and needed, especially with the Delta variant being much more infectious than the original COVID-19 virus.

"It's been a remarkable achievement to get as many COVID-19 vaccines into arms as we've been able to do this year," added Bocking. "I'd encourage anyone who still needs COVID-19 vaccine to get one. Vaccines greatly reduce your risk of becoming seriously sick with COVID-19 or being hospitalized."

Visit www.hkpr.on.ca for a list of COVID-19 vaccination clinics.

My Local

 Select a community for local news 

LOCAL : NEWS

Cobourg DBIA welcomes Deborah Annibalini as its new administrator

32 mins ago