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Nitesh Thakur (left) and Ahmad Zahid of ATA show one of the company's latest creations, a portable container that uses liquid nitrogen to cool vaccines down to -80 degrees Celsius.

Michael Costa photo

THE LONG ROAD TO HERD IMMUNITY

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS SET TO BEGIN FOR HALTON FRONTLINE WORKERS

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With the first doses of a COVID-19 vaccine on their way to the region, Halton Public Health officials are making plans for eventual widespread immunizations of local residents.

A COVID-19 vaccine task force is being established, headed up by Dr. Joanna Oda, the region's associate medical officer of health, and Tony Oliveri, acting commissioner of Halton's strategic transformation group.

"The task force will plan, implement and monitor the deliv-

ery of immunization to Halton residents," said Halton Medical Officer of Health Dr. Hamidah Meghani.

So far the vaccine developed by Pfizer-BioNTech has been approved by Health Canada, with a decision on the American-made Moderna vaccine expected soon

as well.

The Province announced on Dec. 18 that Halton Healthcare (HHC) is among 17 new hospital vaccine delivery sites that are set to receive the Pfizer vaccine.

HHC, which operates the hospitals in Oakville, Milton and Georgetown, says plans are underway to establish a vaccination centre at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital.

The Province has indicated

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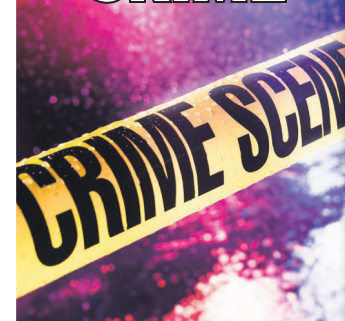
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