

IN QUOTES: ANAND ON COVID-19 VACCINES AND HER HALTON ROUNDTABLE

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There's no doubt that politicians across the country are feeling the pressure of expediting the COVID-19 vaccine rollout, and Anita Anand is no exception.

As Canada's minister responsible for procuring the vaccines, Anand says she's in touch with suppliers daily to expedite the inoculations.

The Halton politician also hosted a roundtable discussion on April 8 with other Halton MPs and health-care professionals, including medical officer of health Dr. Hamidah Meghani and Halton Healthcare doctors.

Here are four quotes that capture the latest from Anand:

(Some answers have been edited for length.)



Graham Paine/Metroland

MP Anita Anand is encouraging residents to get a vaccine when the opportunity arises.

1. ON THE ROUNDTABLE MEETING:

"I have been holding roundtables with various health units across the country; that included stops in Nova Scotia, in

British Columbia, in Quebec, and also in Halton Region. I was with my counterparts from Halton — Adam van Koevorden, Karina Gould and Pam Damoff.

We hosted some of the

leaders in the health-care profession to discuss the vaccine procurements and rollout, as well as the supply of PPE and rapid tests, among other things. We had a very fruitful conversation and we'll get together again in about a month's time to continue the conversation."

2. ON WHAT WAS DISCUSSED AT THE ROUNDTABLE:

"The important issue that I brought up was the increase in federal supply of vaccines. We had 10 million vaccines in this country at the end of last week, we will have 44 million vaccines in this country by the end of June, and 110 million vaccines by the end of September. What I was trying to stress is that despite what the health officials may be hearing, the supply of vaccines from a federal

perspective is very, very stable and indeed increasing. Our vaccines are all approved as being safe and effective by Health Canada. They include Moderna, Pfizer and AstraZeneca, and Johnson and Johnson will begin to be delivered to Canada by the end of the month."

3. ON CRITICS SAYING THE VACCINE ROLLOUT IS HAPPENING TOO SLOWLY:

"As the minister responsible for procuring vaccines and ensuring they continue to arrive in Canada as early as possible, I am focused on the deliveries to Canada. Canada has received over 10.5 million vaccines to date. We were initially planning to receive only 6 million by the end of March. This increased number is the result of our work with suppliers each and every day

to accelerate the delivery of vaccines to Canada to ensure as many vaccines as possible reach Canadians as rapidly as possible. We will continue to ensure that vaccines arrive in Canada at an accelerated pace."

4. ON VACCINE HESITANCY/APPOINTMENTS GOING UNFILLED ACROSS THE COUNTRY:

"I want to stress that any vaccine that has been ruled safe and effective by Health Canada is a vaccine that Canadians should take. My counterpart, Pam Damoff, recently got the AstraZeneca vaccine, my husband has signed up to have his vaccine. People across the country are indeed looking to have this vaccine and any that is offered to them, and I think that's the right approach. If you have an opportunity to get a vaccine, I recommend that you do so."

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NICE TO MEET YOU



Women's Club Marks 50 Years

The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Georgetown is a club open to all women of all educational backgrounds who share the same goals and value life-long learning. This year, the club is celebrating its 50th anniversary and you're invited to join.

As a club, CFUW Georgetown offers not only opportunities to advocate for women and issues of community concern, but also access to lively speakers on wide-ranging topics and many pandemic-adapted social activities such as book clubs, walking, film, bridge and writing groups, all while forming new friendships.

The club was chartered in 1971, and quickly became a staple in the community. CFUW took part in the Old Seed House Garden, Devereaux House rescue, and the

greening of Guelph Street project to name but a few.

Over the years, CFUW has hosted several public information forums, most recently on #413. However, the club is best known for its annual Book & Toy Sale to fund CFUW scholarships for town youth headed to college or university and for organizing All Candidate Debates before elections.

The monthly meetings feature interesting speakers in partnership with the Halton Hills Public Library on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m..

Due to COVID-19, the meetings are currently held on Zoom until further notice. To obtain the Zoom link and join the meetings or to get more information about joining CFUW Georgetown, contact enquiries@cfuw-georgetown.ca

cfuw Georgetown



cfuw-georgetown.ca

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