

# REGION ACCELERATING SECOND COVID VACCINE DOSES FOR ALL RESIDENTS

Halton residents 12 and older who have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine are now able to reschedule their second dose to an earlier date, at a minimum 28-day interval, at halton.ca.

Those who've received the AstraZeneca vaccine as their first dose, will continue to receive an interval of eight weeks or more, as per Provincial direction.

In addition, all residents who are booking a first appointment will receive their second dose appointment at a minimum 28-day interval.

"We are pleased to offer earlier second dose appointments to all residents, based on our expected vaccine supply," said Halton Regional Chair Gary Carr.

"We continue to make great progress and have already vaccinated 77 per cent of our 12+ community

with the first dose, and 26 per cent have received both doses.

"We will continue to open appointments and get everyone fully vaccinated as quickly as vaccine supply is received."

The quickest and easiest way to reschedule is online, by clicking the "Reschedule your appointment" button.

Halton is asking residents to be patient and avoid calling 311, to ensure that those who require immediate booking support have access to the service.

Halton Region Public Health is providing Moderna and Pfizer vaccines at community clinics.

The availability of appointments and vaccine type remain dependent on supply.

Getting two doses as soon as possible is critical for gaining protection from

COVID-19 and its variants. Both Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are safe, effective and authorized by Health Canada.

Moderna and Pfizer vaccines use similar mRNA technology, and are interchangeable.

"The best vaccine is the first vaccine available to you and getting your vaccine at the earliest eligibility is critical for gaining strong protection against COVID-19 and its variants, including the Delta variant," said Dr. Hamidah Meghani, Halton Region Medical Officer of Health.

"All Health Canada approved vaccines are safe and effective in preventing severe illness, hospitalization and death. We are getting closer to returning to normal, so please continue to follow all public health measures and roll up your sleeves Halton!"



Metroland file photo

Halton residents 12 and older can now book their second dose of the COVID vaccine at an earlier date.

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