

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

#### For immediate release

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# Phase One pre-registration system for COVID-19 Vaccine launches in Waterloo Region

**Waterloo Region –** High-priority groups can now pre-register for COVID-19 vaccination in Waterloo Region. Those identified as part of Phase One of the province's vaccination roll-out plan, including Adults 80+, are encouraged to register to be contacted for a vaccine appointment. Appointments are for as early as this week, and will continue based on vaccine availability.

### Residents can register in two ways:

Online: www.regionofwaterloo.ca/vaccinePreReg

By phone: For those unable to register online please call the Region's Service First Call Centre at 519-575-4400.

\*Online registration is the fastest way to register. Please be patient as the call centre experiences a high volume of calls.

## Pre-registration and vaccination is currently open to:

- Adult recipients of chronic home health care
- Adults 80 years of age and older
- Essential caregivers in long-term care or retirement home
- Health care workers
- Indigenous Adults
- Seniors congregate setting staff, residents and essential caregivers
- Staff in long-term care or retirement home

Vaccination of residents, essential caregivers and staff in long-term care and high-risk retirement homes is coming to a conclusion with more than 29,000 doses administered and more than 13,000 people fully vaccinated with two doses.

"We are very close to celebrating completion of vaccinations in long-term care and highrisk retirement homes," said Shirley Hilton, Deputy Chief for Waterloo Region Police Service and head of the Waterloo Region Vaccine Distribution Task Force. "As vaccinations are completed and capacity is increased, we will continue to open up

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vaccination to more groups as quickly as possible. Pre-registration will help us to maximize capacity and book people in as soon as possible."

Visit our website to learn more about where you can go to be vaccinated once appointments are available as well as our 5 Clinic Type strategy.

We urge the public to continue following <u>public health guidelines protect yourself</u>, others and slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

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