

Province to implement proof of vaccination system as Caledon sees rise in cases

By Rob Paul, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

As COVID-19 continues to make its impact felt with the Delta variant trending the country towards a fourth wave, the Government of Ontario is implementing a system that will require people to be fully vaccinated and provide proof of their vaccination status to access and enter certain businesses and settings starting September 22.

“As the world continues its fight against the Delta variant, our government will never waver in our commitment to do what’s necessary to keep people safe, protect our hospitals and minimize disruptions to businesses,” said Premier Doug Ford. “Based on the latest evidence and best advice, COVID-19 vaccine certificates give us the best chance to slow the spread of this virus while helping us to avoid further lockdowns. If you haven’t received your first or second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, please do so today.”

As of September 22, Ontarians will need to be fully vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination along with photo ID to access restaurants and bars; nightclubs; meeting and event spaces; facilities used for sports and fitness activities and personal fitness training; sporting events; casinos, bingo halls, and gambling establishments; concerts, music festivals, theatres, and cinemas; strip clubs, bathhouses, and sex clubs; and racing venues.

With the implementation of this proof of vaccination system, Peel continues to slowly see a rise in vaccination coverage with 30,082 doses administered in the last seven-day cycle (September 1 to 7) to take the total to 2,348,016. 1,265,588 individuals have single-dose coverage and 1,082,428 residents have completed vaccination.

In total, 73.6 per cent of resident have initiated the vaccination process with 66.3 per cent fully vaccinated. Among adults (18+), 84.7 per cent have one dose and 76.7 per cent are fully vaccinated?the numbers are similar among those 12 and older with 84.4 per cent having one shot and 76.3 per cent with both.

The COVID case total in Peel is still much higher now than it had been throughout the spring and early summer with 642 cases in the last week to take the total for the Region up to 114,677.

There were also 22 new deaths in the last week to bring Peel to 978 total.

In Caledon, the case count is up to 4,713 with 73 new cases this past week?nearly 20 more than the previous week (54). The death count in Caledon remains at 22 with no new deaths this week.

To book a vaccination in the Region of Peel, visit www.peelregion.ca/coronavirus/vaccine/book-appointment/.