

Board of Health Meeting June 24, 2021

Summary

Auditor's Report

The 2020 Audit was presented to the Board by Ms. Serena Deschamps, auditor for Allan and Partners LLP. She stated that: the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of the entity as of December 31, 2020, and its result of operations, its changes in net debt, and its cash flows for the year that ended in accordance with the Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards. The auditors did not find any new deficiencies in the course of the Audit. The Board of Health approved the 2020 Audit.

Provincial Appointments to the Board

Both Sherryl Smith and Toni Surko have been reappointed to the Board of Health and bring a valuable perspective to the work of the Board.

COVID-19 Update

The number of new infections is low throughout the Leeds, Grenville and Lanark area. There are no outbreaks, or hospitalizations. This reflects the broad adherence to public health precautions and provincial Step One regulations, and the high level of vaccine uptake by our population.

Vaccine Program

As of Monday, June 21st 125,594 (83%) people aged 18 and older in Leeds, Grenville and Lanark have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and 28,285 (20%) their second dose through one of the vaccine fixed or community clinics, primary care clinics or pharmacies. The proportion of the population age 18 plus with a first vaccine dose is among the highest in the province. The collaborative effort among all our partners, including health care providers, community organizations, school boards, and municipalities, has made this possible.

The youth vaccine program for ages 12 to 17 is progressing well with 56% receiving the vaccine as of June 21, 2021.

The mobile clinic teams are collaborating with ten municipalities (Carleton Place, Perth, Lanark Village, Beckwith, Westport, Gananoque, Elgin, Athens, Portland, Cardinal) and local health care providers to do community vaccine clinics around the region to increase access to the vaccine. Seven municipal clinics for youth and families are being held in the last two weeks in June, and eleven municipal clinics are in the first two weeks of July with a second dose for people who received their first dose at community clinics in April/May. The July clinics will also have space for first doses for people age 12 plus and second doses for others.

The Health Unit is holding a special vaccine clinic in Smiths Falls on June 29, 2021 that will be staffed by Health Unit employees. This is a chance for those who haven't been involved in the vaccine program to contribute to it and experience the positive reaction of the people who are getting their vaccine.

LGL pharmacies now have Moderna or Pfizer vaccine for people age 12 plus. People are encouraged to check the provincial website for local pharmacy availability in the coming weeks.

LGL primary care providers are being given Moderna and some AstraZeneca vaccine for their clinic group.

Canada's [National Advisory Committee on Immunization](#) (NACI) supports 'mixing vaccines' or vaccine interchangeability meaning one can receive one vaccine product for the first dose and a different vaccine product for your second dose to complete your two-dose vaccine series.

- **Moderna and Pfizer are both mRNA vaccines that work in the same way and are considered interchangeable.**
- Individuals who have received AstraZeneca for their first dose may choose to have their second dose 8 to 12 weeks after the first dose and can choose an mRNA vaccine or AstraZeneca if available.