



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, November 2, 2021, Peterborough

Influenza Vaccination Rates Jumped Last Year Among Local Healthcare Workers

*More Healthcare Workers Received the Flu Shot Than Previous Year
at PRHC and Local Long-Term Care Homes*

Peterborough Public Health is hoping last year's strong flu shot uptake among local healthcare workers portends similar vaccination rates this year for even better community protection.

"Last year's impressive influenza vaccination rates show that local healthcare workers understand that the vaccine is essential to protecting their patients and the community," said Patti Fitzgerald, Manager of Infectious Disease Programs. "We appreciate their leadership as the flu vaccine starts rolling out across our region, and hope to see strong vaccination rates again this year for everyone's benefit."

Each year Peterborough Public Health produces a report on healthcare worker flu immunization rates focusing on those who work in long-term care facilities (LTCF), retirement residences, and at Peterborough Regional Health Centre (PRHC). For the 2020-2021 influenza season, the median vaccination rate of all LTCFs was 87.2%, up 5.1% from the previous year. Influenza vaccination rates among PRHC staff also increased from last year, up 3.4% to 84.5%.

A total of zero lab-confirmed influenza cases were reported for the 2020-2021 surveillance season. Zero influenza outbreaks were reported in LTCFs, retirement residences, and the local hospital for the same period, compared to three outbreaks in these settings the previous influenza season.

This year's flu vaccine has already been made available to healthcare workers and is currently publicly available through pharmacies and health care providers. The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) considers the provision of influenza vaccination to be an essential component of the standard of care for all healthcare workers for the protection of their patients.

Please see the chart below for a comparison of influenza immunization rates among local LTCFs and retirement residences. LTCFs and hospitals are required by the Ministry of Health to report these rates annually to local public health agencies; this is optional for retirement residences.

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Influenza Immunization Rates for Peterborough Healthcare Facility Staff, 2020-2021 Season

Table 1: Peterborough Public Health Healthcare Worker Influenza Feedback Report (reporting mandatory)

Peterborough Health Unit	Median		% Change
	2019/2020	2020/2021	
Peterborough Regional Health Centre	81.1%	84.5%	3.4%
Long-Term Care Homes	82.1%	87.2%	5.1%
Long-Term Care Homes	Staff Immunization Rate		% Change
	2019/2020	2020/2021	
Centennial Place Long-Term Care Home	96.5%	91.3%	-5.20%
Extendicare Lakefield	81%	92.2%	11.20%
Extendicare Peterborough	83.9%	92.4%	8.50%
Fairhaven	85.1%	73.6%	-11.50%
Pleasant Meadow Manor	81.1%	87.6%	6.50%
Riverview Manor Nursing Home	64.9%	90.5%	25.60%
Springdale Country Manor	73.1%	66.7%	-6.40%
St. Joseph's at Fleming	83%	85.8%	2.80%

Table 2: Percentage of staff who received Influenza Immunization in Retirement Residences in Peterborough City and County (reporting optional)

Retirement Home	2019/2020	2020/2021	% Change
Applewood Retirement Residence	-	-	-
Canterbury Gardens	91.6%	91.6%	0
Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph's	43%	62.9%	19.9%
Empress Gardens	90.6%	-	-
Jackson Creek	-	-	-
Kawartha Heights Retirement Residence	40%	54.3%	14.3%
Maple View	63.9%	55.8%	-8.1%
Peterborough Retirement Residence	-	-	-
Princess Gardens	-	-	-
The Regency of Lakefield	64.3%	-	-
Royal Gardens	87.2%	-	-
Rubidge Retirement Residence	100%	79.0%	-21%
Sherbrooke Heights	-	-	-

For more information, please review the October 13, 2021 Board of Health Healthcare Worker 2020-2021 Influenza Immunization report [here](#) (pages 42-47).

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