

Terms of Reference

York Region COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force

Purpose	What will this task force do?
	<p>As directed by the Ministry of Health, the purpose of this Task Force is to provide overall direction and coordination in the preparation, launch and operations of the COVID immunization campaign in York Region. The Task Force will collectively plan and implement a systems level approach for mass immunization.</p> <p>The Ethical Framework for COVID-19 Vaccination Distribution will be used to guide recommendations on how vaccine will be offered to priority populations and sub-groups including recommendations on promoting uptake of groups that have been sequenced ahead of others, but are not achieving anticipated rates of vaccination due to access barriers.</p> <p>The York Region COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force will work towards developing a timely, coordinated plan to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide feedback to public health in the identification of its regional priority population profile for each of the phases in the immunization plan - Effectively distribute vaccination in the community including to people at high risk and to vulnerable populations and the general population in the community as well as in congregate and other settings in the community - Collaborate to develop innovative and equitable solutions to deliver vaccinations to patients and residents - Provide education and outreach support to ensure primary care, healthcare providers and the community have factual vaccine information to make informed decision - Be the conduit of information back to their respective groups - Work in alignment with the COVID-19 Mass Immunization Advisory Group - Participate in separate working groups if need be
Background	Why was it created?
	<p>Local public health has a mandate and responsibility to protect the health of communities in York Region. This includes providing leadership to respond to large-scale outbreaks of vaccine preventable communicable diseases and to support immunization programs and services in the community. Local public health can build upon its infrastructure, experience and established relationships with key health and other community stakeholders to plan and coordinate the COVID-19 immunization campaign within local communities.</p> <p>The Ontario COVID-19 Vaccination Distribution Plan considers a variety of vaccination site types to ensure that targeted populations will have appropriate and effective access to the vaccine. A mix of mass immunization clinics, mobile clinics and on-site clinics will be required. Coordinating and implementing a rapid vaccination program of this magnitude will require significant planning by public health and its partners. It is expected that public health and its local health partners will actively and consistently work together to maximize distribution in a safe, timely and equitable manner.</p> <p>Building flexibility and adaptability in the plans to scale delivery as required, both up and down, across different approaches and site types will also be critical.</p>

Task Force Composition	Who is on the Task Force?	
The York Region COVID-19 Vaccine Task Group consists of the following members:		
Representation	Name, position	Position
Public Health (Chair)	Zahra Kassam	Vaccine Operations Chief
Public Health (Chair)	Katarina Garpenfeldt	Vaccine Operations Chief
Public Health	Dr. Richard Gould	Associate Medical Officer of Health
Public Health	Kim Bacani-Angus	Public Health Nurse, Health Equity
Public Health	Krista Richards	Public Health Nurse, Health Equity
Public Health	Shelley Stalker Yvonne Cheung Shanna Hoetmer	HEOC Director
Public Health	TBD	HEOC Planning
Public Health	Cathy Jaynes	Logistics Supplies Chief
Public Health	Elena Hasheminejad Emily McMorris	HEOC Liaison CS / HEOC Liaison
Public Health	Nada Barqawi	Supervisor (A), Advanced Planning, Research and Recovery,
Public Health	Julia Roitenberg	HEOC Logistics HR
Public Health	Scott Cholewa	Operations Chief
Public Health	Hailey Russell	HEOC Communications
Public Health	Tara Zupancic	Project Manager, Prioritization
York Region Corporate Services	Jennifer Mitchell	Corporate Communications
York Region OHT Lead	Valerie Garcia	Lead, Ontario Health Teams
York Region, Community & Health Services, Strategies and Partnerships	Sutha Balasingham	Head of Departmental Strategic Initiatives
Ontario Health Central Region	Amy Khan	Ontario Health Central Region
Central West OH Lead	Brian Klar Saleem Chattergoon Emily Cichonski	Brampton Etobicoke OHT
York Region Social Services (Shelters, group homes, and other social housing)	Monica Bryce	A/GM Social Services
Primary Care Providers including Family Health Teams/ Ontario Health Teams	Dr. Emilie Lam Dr. Allan Grill Dr. Loredana Di Santo (Lori) Dr. Jack Moussadji	Medical Lead OHT – EYR Chief of Family Medicine, MSH Primary Care Lead WYR- OHT Chief of Family Medicine, Mackenzie Health
Ontario Health Lead	Dr. David Makary	Primary Care Co-Lead, Ontario Health (Central) Primary Care Council
Clinical Ethicist	Kevin Reel Jonathan Breslin	Markham Stouffville Hospital Mackenzie Health Hospital
Public Health Ethicist	Dr. David Pakes	York Region Public Health Physician
York Region Paramedics Services	Tait Mitchell Victoria Rossander	Superintendent – COVID-19 Response. Paramedic Services Program Manager, Community Programs, Paramedic Services

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York Region Fire Services	Chief Ian Laing	Chief York Region Fire Services
Pharmacies	Lisa Levine	Pharmacists
Indigenous communities and organizations		
High Priority Strategy Lead	LoAn Ta-Young Helen Leung	Acting ED, Vaughan CHC CEO, Carefirst Seniors and Community Services Association
York Region Francophone Association	Carolyn Le Quéré	Settlement Services Coordinator
York Region Alliance of African Canadian Communities	Winston Miller	YRAACC Board Member
Developmental Disabilities sector	Bryan Keshan	Chair, Provincial Developmental Disabilities Sector Vaccine work group
Interfaith communities	Rehana Sumar Angie Fix	Executive Director of Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold / COVID-19 Team Lead
Southlake RHC	Gayle Seddon	Director, Community Partnerships and Programs
Mackenzie Health Hospital	Amir Soheili	Program Director, Clinical Support Services
Markham Stouffville Hospital	Cheryl Osborne	Pt. care Director, ED, Oncology and Community Outreach
Black Creek Community Health Centre	Cheryl Prescod	Executive Director, Black Creek Community Health Centre
Schools and School boards		
York Regional Police	Trevor Brown	Regional Liaison officer
York Region Emergency Management	Morris Faccin	York Region Emergency Operations Centre (REOC)
York Region Emergency Management	Laura James	Program Manager, Local Municipalities Emergency Management
York Region Mass Immunization Advisory Group member	Dr Pearl Yang	Family Physician

Term of Membership

How long is the commitment for this Task Force?

Approximately 8 months with the possibility of extension

Responsibilities

How will the Task Force work together to meet its purpose?

The York Region COVID Vaccine Task Force is responsible to:

- Collaborate to develop a community-based strategy to tackle vaccination of our community residents
- Provide insight and recommendations on the location of vaccination clinics, required equipment and essential tools needed to handle large volumes in a safe and efficient manner

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply best practices, evidence informed models for vaccination clinics • Communicate on behalf of the Task Force with external stakeholders to increase awareness and broader sector engagement • Provide leadership regarding successful implementation of initiatives identified by the Task Force • Consider the perspectives of ethnocultural, high risk and vulnerable communities as well as the broader community of York Region • Consider the input of multiple healthcare providers and organizations in supporting vaccination efforts 	
Meetings	When does the Task Force meet?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings will occur twice/week 	
Accountability	What needs to be done?
<p>Accountable to the York Region Public Health Medical Officer of Health and Ministry of Health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop practical work plans, materials, and recommendations for mass immunization implementation • Remain focused and diligent in the execution of all planned activities • Tracking and reporting on the progress of advisory group activities 	