

COVID-19 Response – September 14, 2021

Presented To:	City Council
Meeting Date:	September 14, 2021
Type:	Managers' Reports
Prepared by:	Ian Wood Strategic Initiatives, Communications and Citizen Services
Recommended by:	Chief Administrative Officer

Report Summary

This report provides an update on service changes and community response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan, Health Impact Assessment and Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP)

This report is informed by all of the Strategic Objectives outlined in the City of Greater Sudbury Strategic Plan 2019-2027. There is no relationship to the CEEP.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Summary

This report is the twenty-ninth Council Update on the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency and builds on the information provided in previous reports on April 7, May 5, May 19, June 9, June 23, July 7, August 12, September 8, September 22, October 6, October 20, November 10, November 24, and December 15, 2020. In 2021, updates have been presented on the January 12, January 26th, February 9, February 23, March 9, March 23, April 13, April 27, May 11, May 25, June 15, June 29, July 14 and August 17 Council Agendas.

A: INTRODUCTION

Ontario remains in Step 3 of the provincial Roadmap to Reopen, which came into effect on Friday, July 16. This step brought in loosened restrictions on both indoor and outdoor gatherings although public health protocols, including physical distancing and masks, remain in effect.

Although provincial vaccination numbers meet the stated requirement to move out of Step 3, the number of active cases has rebounded and the Delta variant is taking our province into a fourth wave. It is likely that this situation would need to stabilize before any additional steps are considered.

In the Sudbury region, active case numbers have pushed up as well and now stand in the mid-forties, despite excellent public participation in the vaccination effort. More than 114,000 adults in our region have

now received two shots and the provincial requirement for proof of vaccination, which begins on September 22, appears to have encouraged more people to get a vaccine. Regular clinics will continue at Carmichael Arena to address this demand. Targeted efforts also continue with mobile and pop up clinics located in areas that are convenient for harder to reach populations.

B: CURRENT STATUS OF CGS SERVICES

No significant changes in services have taken place since the previous report. Staff continue to monitor provincial regulations and are working with officials from PHSD to adjust services where possible and to plan for upcoming changes. The province has announced that, as of September 22, proof of vaccination status will be required in some facilities, including municipal arenas, pools, fitness centres and indoor funeral services. Once the detailed regulations are available, additional information will be provided to users and to the public.

A corporate vaccination policy will be finalized and publicly communicated later this week. The policy reflects management's responsibility to provide a safe workplace for all staff and visitors, and aligns with choices taken since the start of the pandemic response to maximize employee safety.

C: SUPPORT FOR VACCINE DISTRIBUTION

As noted, Carmichael Arena remains in regular use for vaccination clinics. Municipal staff are supporting this effort and continue to provide support to pop up sites as well as with the adapted transit bus serving as the mobile vaccination location.

D: NEXT STEPS

CGS Communications continue to work with PHSD to share and amplify the most accurate and up to date information for the public. Currently, the messages have a strong focus on school age children 12-17 years old and on maintaining public health protocols in the face of the Delta variant of COVID-19.

Staff will provide a further update at the meeting of Council on September 28, 2021.

E: REFERENCES

Links to all updates between April 7 and November 24, 2020 can be found in the December 15 report:

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council December 15, 2020,
<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&attachment=33878.pdf>

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council January 12, 2021,
<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&attachment=34038.pdf>

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council January 26, 2021,
<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&attachment=34176.pdf>

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council February 9, 2021
<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&attachment=34252.pdf>

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council February 23, 2021
<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&attachment=34341.pdf>

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council March 9, 2021
<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&attachment=34405.pdf>

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council March 23, 2021

<https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?documentid=37578>

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council April 13, 2021 [https://pub-](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=39762)

[greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=39762](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=39762)

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council April 27, 2021 [https://pub-](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=39856)

[greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=39856](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=39856)

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council May 11, 2021 [https://pub-](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=39958)

[greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=39958](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=39958)

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council May 25, 2021 [https://pub-](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40062)

[greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40062](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40062)

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council June 15, 2021 [https://pub-](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40281)

[greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40281](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40281)

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council July 14, 2021 [https://pub-](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40487)

[greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40487](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40487)

COVID-19 Update, Report to Council August 17, 2021 [https://pub-](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40648)

[greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40648](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/FileStream.ashx?DocumentId=40648)