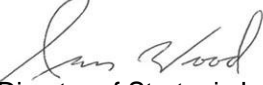





Report Title
COVID 19 RESPONSE UPDATE

Resolution		Relationship to the Strategic Plan/Health Impact Assessment	
For Information Only		<p>This report is informed by all of the Strategic Objectives outlined in the City of Greater Sudbury Strategic Plan 2019-2027, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asset Management and Service Excellence • Business Attraction, Development and Retention • Climate Change • Economic Capacity and Investment Readiness • Housing • Create a Healthier Community • Strengthen Community Vibrancy 	
	Resolution Continued		Background Attached

Report Summary	Financial Implications
<p>This report is the twentieth Council Update on the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency and builds on the information provided in the previous reports on the April 7, May 5, May 19, June 9, June 23, July 7, August 12, September 8, September 22 and October 6, October 20, November 10, November 24, December 15, January 12, January 26th, February 9, February 23 and March 9 Council Agendas.</p>	<p>There are no financial implications for this report.</p>

Report Prepared By	Division Review
<p>Ian Wood  Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives, Communications and Citizen Services</p>	<p>NA</p>

Recommended by the Department	Financial Implications
<p>Ian Wood  Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives, Communications and Citizen Services</p>	<p> Steve Facey Manager of Financial Planning and Budgeting</p>

Recommended by the C.A.O.
<p> Ed Archer Chief Administrative Officer</p>

A: INTRODUCTION

On Friday, March 12, the province activated its “Emergency Brake” and the Public Health Sudbury and Districts (PHSD) region was placed into the Grey (Lockdown) zone under the Ontario COVID-19 Response Framework. This action was necessitated by a significant increase in positive cases of COVID-19 in our region, particularly within the City of Greater Sudbury.

Since March 1, the total number of cases in our region has almost doubled, increasing from 667 to 1,213. This means that for the past three weeks, we have averaged 26 new cases each day, instead of the rate of 1.9 new cases per day for the entire pandemic up to that point

These numbers, especially when combined with the information that more than 240 of the new cases have screened positive for variants of concern, are deeply troubling for our community. This is why use of the emergency brake provision was appropriate and why citizens must continue to exercise extreme caution in their daily activities.

It is not clear how long the Grey (Lockdown) provisions will be in place but the number of new cases must likely trend much lower before significant changes can be expected.

On a more positive note, 23,210 doses of vaccine have been administered in our region, reaching approximately 12% of the population. This is on par with the province as a whole where 11.5% of people have received at least one dose. Public Health reports that later this week, they will begin booking appointments for people over the age of 75 years and begin to transition to the provincial online vaccination portal.

B: CURRENT STATUS OF CGS SERVICES

As reported to Council on March 9, CGS facilities and services were moved to match the Grey (Lockdown) regulations on Monday March 8. As a result, very few changes were required when the Emergency Brake provisions were enacted on March 12.

Of note is the fact that most arenas now have ice removed for the season and other indoor recreational facilities are in care and maintenance mode for the duration of this Grey (Lockdown) order. Where possible, staff from these facilities are assisting with vaccination clinic set up and operations, playing an important role in ensuring the most efficient system possible.

C: SUPPORT FOR VACCINE DISTRIBUTION

The City of Greater Sudbury is providing extensive resources and support to Public Health in the implementation of the vaccine roll out. Here are a number of examples:

Carmichael Arena – In addition to providing the facility itself, CGS is providing staff to coordinate the flow of citizens and ensure that the operation is as efficient as possible. Standby power and parking lot improvements have also been implemented at this location.

Homebound Vaccinations – CGS Paramedics are going directly to the homes of pre-identified citizens to vaccinate those individuals who are physically unable to attend the in-person clinics.

Vaccine Booking Call Centre – CGS has established and staffed a call centre at the Lionel E.

Lalonde Centre to assist residents from across the region to book their vaccine appointments. Telephone representatives are working in Azilda and also remotely and this hyper-local approach has been very helpful to our community's elderly (80+) population.

Vaccines for Vulnerable Populations – CGS staff in several divisions worked with Public Health and community partners to stage a vaccination clinic at the Sudbury Arena on Sunday, March 14. This unique approach was successful in reaching individuals who may not have been comfortable accessing the vaccine otherwise. Staff are aware that there is continuing need amongst high-risk groups and are developing additional solutions for future implementation.

Countryside Arena – A temporary extension to the arena parking lot is being constructed this week in preparation for the main vaccination clinic move from Carmichael Arena, likely as of Saturday, March 27. This move will allow an expansion in the number of vaccines that can be delivered each day. Upgrades to building systems and set up for the clinics have also been completed. Countryside is expected to be the main clinic in our community for the duration of the COVID-19 vaccination effort.

As announced by Public Health, this will be a week of transition as our community shifts from Phase 1 to Phase 2 of the vaccine playbook. The latest information is always available at the following link - <https://www.phsd.ca/health-topics-programs/vaccines-immunizations/coronavirus-covid-19-vaccine/upcoming-vaccination-clinics-for-specific-priority-groups/>

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.

Staff will provide a further update at the meeting of Council on April 13, 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>