

# **COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force Update #4**

# Vaccine Update

## Phased Distribution Plan

### December 31, 2020

- On December 23, 2020 Health Canada approved the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.
  - ~**53,000** doses of the Moderna vaccine were delivered on Dec 30<sup>th</sup> and will be administered to residents in long term care homes and high-risk retirement homes beginning with those in the grey and red zones.
  - Over **24,000** doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered to date.
- **Ethical Framework:**
  - The ethical framework was developed to guide decision-making and to ensure an ethical and effective distribution of vaccines in Ontario.
    - Supports the identification and sequencing of priority populations as well as other distribution considerations.
  - The framework is grounded in a core set of principles to guide COVID-19 vaccine distribution. Including:
    - Minimize harms and maximize benefits
    - Equity
    - Fairness
    - Transparency
    - Legitimacy
  - Public trust is enhanced by ensuring decisions and decision-making processes are informed by these principles to advance confidence and trust in Ontario's COVID-19 immunization program
  - The framework was developed by the prioritization subgroup – co-chaired by Dr. Maxwell Smith and Dr. Dirk Huyer and with representation from clinical leaders and bioethicists from across the province.

## Key Successes

- Significant progress has been made on the plan for vaccinating those residing in remote/fly-in Northern communities, including the identification of health care personnel who will be administering the vaccine. The roll-out to these communities is targeted to begin in early January with Ornge undertaking the operational lead.
- This week, a total of 19 hospital sites continued to vaccinate workers and essential caregivers from long-term care and high-risk retirement homes, as well as high-risk hospital workers, with volumes increasing over the course of the week.
- Building on lessons learned from the Pfizer Vaccine rollout, the ministry has collaborated with key health sector partners to prepare for administering the Moderna vaccine to residents in long-term care homes and high-risk retirement homes.

**For more information on COVID-19 vaccines for Ontario, please click [here](#).**