



The Regional  
Municipality  
of Durham

Social Services  
Department

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Dear Family Member,

### Second Dose COVID-19 Vaccination

Many of you have already taken the first step of getting your first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine but have been unable to get the second dose. Due to increased vaccine supply, the province is adding high-risk health care workers – which includes staff and Essential Caregivers in long-term care homes to the list of those eligible to receive their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine earlier than the extended four-month interval.

Registered Essential Caregivers that require a second dose likely already have an appointment booked either at Lakeridge Health Ontario Tech Clinic or a Public Health Mass Immunization Clinic. If your appointment is within the next 14 days, it is best to keep that appointment.

For appointments that are further out, you may wish to get an earlier appointment. We are currently investigating the possibility of a Mobile Clinic operated by Durham Region Paramedic Services at the home. Once we are able to confirm that, we will let you know how to register. Please do not cancel any existing vaccine appointment until there is a confirmed date for a Mobile Clinic and you know that you can attend on that date. If you are unable to attend on that day, and received Pfizer as your first dose, we will take your name and facilitate a booking at the Lakeridge Health Ontario Tech Clinic. More information will be provided by the home.

High rates of vaccination in all long-term care homes is important to protect all individuals who live in, work, and visit homes and help reduce the risk of outbreaks and the need to isolate residents. This is why we are strongly encouraging staff and visitors to get vaccinated.

If you have not yet got your first dose, please consider doing so as soon as possible so that we can move closer to a return to normal. Please book your first dose vaccine clinic appointment directly through the applicable online portal or the call-in line. For Durham Region clinics, the portal link is [www.durham.ca/vaccineappointment](http://www.durham.ca/vaccineappointment) and the call-in number is 1-888-444-5113.

If you have any questions about vaccine safety or would like more information, please go to <https://www.durham.ca/CovidVaccines> or speak to your Medical Practitioner.

*Laura MacDermaid*