



## A Message from Tony

As I think about the message for this week's newsletter, I can't help but reflect on how mentally exhausting this pandemic has been for all Canadians. And as much as we all want this pandemic to end, we know there is some distance to travel before we can start to resume activities, get together with loved ones, and begin the path to recovery.

We are now in the third wave of this pandemic, with new variants presenting even greater health challenges than the previous strains of COVID-19. And as fed up as many of us are with restrictions and concerns about the future, now is not the time to let down our guard or to be less vigilant in our fight against this deadly virus.

Many of us follow news about vaccines and vaccinations and as of today, 10,549,140 million doses (Moderna, Pfizer, and AstraZeneca) have been delivered to the provinces and territories. In total, 7,252,560 million doses have been administered, and here in York Region, 224,163 shots have found their way into the arms of residents. In fact, within Ontario, York Region is second only to Toronto in the number of residents who have received a vaccination.

Pfizer has committed to ship 1 million doses a week from now until the end of May and expects to ramp up to 2 million doses per week in June. Pfizer alone will have delivered more than 17 million doses by the end of June. Moderna has advised there will be 855,000 doses delivered next week and an additional 1.2 million doses the last week of April. The AstraZeneca vaccine continues to arrive along with expectations that the Johnson & Johnson single dose vaccine could start arriving in Canada at the end of April. The challenges are significant, but getting vaccinations into the arms of our residents remains the single biggest priority for all levels of government.

There is hope that by the end of June, most eligible Canadians will have received their first vaccination. Our government will continue to support Canadians, keeping their health and safety at the forefront of our decision making. Locally, we need to do all we can to continue to support local businesses. Please, consider shopping local – our small businesses need your support.

[Sign-up for COVID-19 email updates](#)

## Supporting the Provinces During the Pandemic



### Delivering doses across Canada

As of April 7, we've delivered more than 10.5 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to the provinces and territories.

Ontario has received 4,028,725 doses, and as of April 9, they have administered 2,940,166 doses across the province.

In May, we will receive a million Pfizer doses a week, and almost 2 million doses a week in June. We'll also receive 2 million doses of the Moderna vaccine in April, 3 million in May, and millions more in June.

By the end of June, we're expecting to have at least 44 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer, Moderna, and AstraZeneca.

### NACI Guidelines

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI), an independent and external group of experts, has provided recommendations on the use of authorized COVID-19 vaccines.

These are scientific recommendations made to help inform the provinces and territories as they make decisions about vaccine distribution and prioritization.

Ultimately, provinces and territories are responsible for determining the next steps for their vaccination efforts.

All vaccines authorized for use in Canada are safe and effective. We encourage all Canadians to get vaccinated when it is their turn.

### Supporting testing and contact tracing

This week, we announced the final instalment of the [Safe Restart Agreement](#) to help the provinces and territories further increase their testing capacity and support Canadians through this crisis.

Last June, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced a \$19 billion agreement with the provinces and territories to help safely restart the economy.

This funding has been used to support the capacity of our health care systems, safe and affordable child care, secure PPE for essential workers, protect the most vulnerable, and assist municipalities' operating needs.

[More Information](#)

[More Information](#)

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### Save the date: April 19

On April 19th, our Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance will table Budget 2021. On April 20th, I will publish a special budget edition of my newsletter, sharing with residents insights and perspectives on this highly anticipated budget. Until then, please stay safe, stay healthy, stay connected, and stay vigilant. We can do this.

[More information](#)



## 75 AND OVER?

### COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics in Newmarket-Aurora

Last weekend, I received my first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at the Ray Twimney Recreation Complex Vaccine Clinic. When you are eligible to do so, I encourage you to book your appointment to get vaccinated.

As of April 3, a number of local pharmacies have opened vaccine appointments

Newmarket: SuperStore at Yonge & Green Lane, Rexall at Yonge & Clearmeadow, Robins on Main St., Shoppers at Davis Dr. & Yonge

Aurora: Shoppers at Hollandview & Bayview, Wal-Mart on First Commerce Dr.

[York Region Vaccine Information](#)

[Pink Cars](#)

## Investing in Newmarket-Aurora



### New Horizons for Seniors Program

The New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP) is a federal grants and contributions program supporting projects led or inspired by seniors making a difference in the lives of others in their community.

Organizations across the country are invited to apply for NHSP funding for projects that foster social inclusion and engagement of seniors.

I am pleased to share that the following Newmarket-Aurora organizations have received funding through the 2020-21 stream: In Play (\$5,000), My Mind My Choice (\$4,745), 108 Health Promotion Association (\$20,677), Chabad Newmarket (\$25,000), Memories + Adult Program and Wellness Centre (\$22,333), and York Region Makers (\$20,440).

[Learn more](#)

[Learn more](#)

## York Region Liberal Caucus Updates



### York Region MPs stand in solidarity with Asian-Canadians

The York Region Liberal Caucus is focused on creating a Canada, and community, that is inclusive, respectful and welcoming to all. This week, our caucus put out statements regarding our donations to various local organizations and our solidarity with the Asian community in York Region.

[Statement](#)

### York Region MPs donate annual pay raise to local organizations

As we continue to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, we will once again be donating pay raises to support various causes and organizations in York Region. Donations from our MP pay increases will go directly to support our community initiatives.

[News Release](#)

## Have Your Say



### Ensuring Safe and Decent Working Conditions

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the vulnerability of gig workers – those who enter into short-term contracts to complete specific and often one-off tasks – and Canada's dependence on them to provide essential services.

With more Canadians working from home, the line between what it means to be "at work" and "not at work" is blurring.

Labour protections must continue to evolve to ensure safe and decent working conditions in Canada. The government wants to better understand:

- The experiences of gig workers in federally regulated sectors, including those who work through digital platforms like delivery or freelance applications; and

- How federally regulated workers could benefit from a "right to disconnect" policy.

You are invited to share your feedback by April 30, 2021.

[Engagement Platform](#)

[Online Survey](#)

## Do you qualify for one of these tax credits?

With the tax deadline for filing of April 30th fast approaching, make sure you take advantage of all of the possible tax credits available to Canadians. So check these out to see if you qualify.

**Canada Employment Amount** – Line 31260: The Canada employment amount provides recognition for work-related expenses such as home computers, uniforms and supplies in the public and private sector. Up to 187.00

**Digital News Subscription Credit** – Line 31350: You can claim up to \$500 for amounts you paid in 2020 for qualifying subscription expenses. You could save up to \$75.00

**Medical Expense Tax Credit** – Line 33099: An extensive list of expenses you might be able to claim. See How do you claim eligible medical expenses on your tax return?

**Home Buyers Amount** – Line 31270: You can claim \$5,000 for the purchase of a qualifying home in the year if both of the following apply: you or your spouse or common-law partner acquired a qualifying home and you did not live in another home owned by you or your spouse or common-law partner in the year of acquisition or in any of the four preceding years (first-time home buyer)

**Interest Paid on Your Student Loans** – Line 31900: You may be eligible to claim an amount for the interest paid on your loan in 2020 or the preceding 5 years for post-secondary education if you received it under the Canada Student Loans Act, the Canada Student Financial Assistance Act, the Apprentice Loans Act or provincial or territorial government laws similar to the acts above.

[Complete List](#)

## Join the Newmarket-Aurora Youth Council!

Are you between the ages of 14-25 and interested in learning about Canadian political processes?

The Newmarket-Aurora Youth Council is an opportunity for youth to engage in important conversations while getting involved in our community and politics. Our non-partisan volunteer opportunity gives youth a vital voice to our government.

Members have the opportunity to discuss important issues such as climate change, gender equality, youth employment and more. The youth perspective brings to light important issues touching our community.

If this sounds interesting to you, or someone you know, I encourage you to apply to join this inspiring group of local youth. As your Member of Parliament, the youth perspective is valuable to the work I do in Ottawa.

[Apply Today!](#)



### Yom Hashoah - Holocaust Remembrance Day

Yom HaShoah, also known as Holocaust Remembrance Day, is observed each year according to the Jewish lunar calendar. It's a time to honour the memory of the more than six million Jews who were persecuted and murdered during the Holocaust, and the countless innocent victims of the atrocities perpetrated by the Nazi Regime.

Canada is not immune to violence, xenophobia, and antisemitism. We must all stand against all forms of hate and intolerance. I join the Jewish community in Canada and around the world in reaffirming our collective duty to ensure that such a tragedy never happens again.

[Prime Minister's Statement](#)



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