

FEBRUARY 24TH, 2023

TSN NEWSLETTER

MEMBER UPDATE FROM THE TORONTO SHELTER NETWORK



**WEBINARS AND
EVENTS:**

**NEXT VACCINE
SITE LEADS
MEETING WITH
TSN AND SSHA**

Date: February 24 2023
Time: 10:00am -11:00am

[Click HERE for the Zoom link.](#)

**UPCOMING
SECTOR TABLE
MEETINGS:**

**Women's Sector
Meeting**
February 1st
10am-11:30am

Youth Sector Meeting
February 17th
10am-12pm

COVID-19/ VACCINES AND OTHER

COVID-19 and Monkeypox Vaccines

- Moderna and Pfizer bivalent COVID-19 vaccines continue to be available for shelter clients and staff (18 years or older for Moderna, and 12 years or older for Pfizer), as a booster dose for people who have completed their primary COVID-19 vaccine series.
- To organize a TPH vaccine clinic, service providers should submit requests to schedule a mobile clinic [HERE](#) or email Linda Godfrey (linda.godfrey@toronto.ca) from TPH to book a one-time visit or reoccurring COVID-19 immunization clinic.
- To organize a ICHA vaccine clinic, submit a request [HERE](#).

COVID-19 Isolation and Recovery

- Staff can continue to refer clients to the Isolation and Recovery site using the electronic referral [HERE](#) or fax the hard copy referral [HERE](#) to 416-696-3463.
- Clients with a positive rapid antigen test can be referred to the site.
- Clients with a confirmed case of MPOX may be eligible for a referral to the Isolation and Recovery site.

Masking

- To protect the health and safety of all staff and clients, the City of Toronto continues mandatory masking for shelters, 24-hour respite and 24-hour women's drop-in sites, as outlined in the Directive on masks and personal protective equipment use.

2San Saliva-Based Rapid Tests Available

- The Ministry of Health has acquired a limited supply of a new type of COVID-19 saliva-based rapid antigen test, made by the company 2San.
- SSHA is encouraging providers already participating in the Provincial Antigen Screening Program (PASP) to take advantage of this opportunity to place an order for the saliva-based tests.

WARMING CENTRES

- Warming centres will activate when an Extreme Cold Weather Alert is issued by the City's Medical Officer of Health based on a forecast from Environment and Climate Change Canada of -15° C or colder, or a wind chill of -20° C or colder.
- Warming Centres may also be activated at warmer temperatures if the forecast includes one or more factors that increase the impact of cold weather on health. Examples include wind chill, low daytime temperatures and precipitation.
- The following warming centres will be open when activated:
 - **Scarborough Civic Centre, 150 Borough Dr.**
 - **Metro Hall, 55 John St.**
 - **Mitchell Field Community Centre, 89 Church Ave.**
 - **Cecil Community Centre, 58 Cecil St.**
- For more information on the Warming Centres, click [HERE](#).

DEDICATED REFUGEE SHELTER SYSTEM

- In April 2022, Council approved Shelter, Support and Housing Administration's (SSHA) phased 24-month COVID-19 Shelter Transition and Relocation Plan ([EC28.9](#)). The plan consists of six core components, including the creation of a refugee specific shelter system which would operate in parallel to the existing base shelter system. This will allow for:
 - SSHA to better understand and monitor demand for services needed by refugee clients.
 - Refugee clients to access services and supports, increasing the likelihood of their ability to exit the shelter system and secure housing.
 - Strengthening and supporting Refugee serving programs that are distinct from services provided in the base shelter system.
 - To learn more, please click [HERE](#).

MEET THE FRONTLINES: STORY SERIES

- The Toronto Shelter Network (TSN) is conducting interviews with frontline workers in the sector. The purpose of the interview is to learn more about frontline shelter workers experiences in the shelter system as a staff/ frontline worker. Pieces of this interview would then be shared within our social media pages (Twitter, LinkedIn, TSN website).
- Please click [HERE](#) to view stories of frontline workers that have been interviewed.
- If you are interested or know a frontline worker who would be interested in being interviewed, please connect with Stephanie at stephanie@toshelternetwork.ca

WEBINARS AND EVENTS:

Current Vaccination Status at Reporting Shelter Locations:

All programs:

- 73% have received first dose!
- 72% are fully vaccinated!

- POS Shelters are at 67% vaccinated!
- DOS shelters are at 61% vaccinated!

Youth programs:

- 77% have received their first dose!
- 69% are fully vaccinated!

