



# TSN NEWSLETTER

MEMBER UPDATE FROM THE TORONTO SHELTER NETWORK



**WEBINARS AND EVENTS:**

## UPCOMING WEBINAR

### Impacts of COVID-19 on 2SLGBTQ+ Youth Experiencing Homelessness Webinar

**Date:** Tuesday, February 8th 2022  
**Time:** 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Click [HERE](#) for the weblink

- Attendees will learn about:
- Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on 2SLGBTQ+ youth experiencing homelessness.
  - Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on housing programs and service delivery for 2SLGBTQ+ youth experiencing homelessness.
  - COVID-19 vaccine attitudes and uptake among 2SLGBTQ+ youth experiencing homelessness.

## COVID-19 AND VACCINES

- SSHA is increasing capacity at the COVID-19 Recovery and Isolation Site. Service providers are encouraged to refer clients to the Isolation and Recovery Centre when positive clients test positive as there is continuous flow in and out of the recovery centre. Click [HERE](#) to access the online referral form
- People experiencing homelessness and staff working in shelters continue to be eligible for PCR testing.
- Positive results from rapid antigen test should be considered confirmed cases and can be referred to the Recovery and Isolation Site.
- TPH developed a poster in response to the increasing resistance to getting the Moderna Vaccine for the booster shot. Click [HERE](#) to view the poster.
- East Toronto Health Partners (ETHP) continues to offer testing and will add new testing dates once available. Please check the website regularly for updates [HERE](#).
- The University Health Network (700 Bay St location) has reduced their mask fitting services to one day per week. Appointments can be booked [HERE](#).
- Service providers who have not received their PPE delivery of N95s for clients or require additional PPE for staff or clients should contact their Agency Review Officer.
- SSHA orders supplies of N95 masks every week and the delivery window dates for the month of February are as follows: Feb 4-7, Feb 11-14, and Feb 18-21. If your program currently has an oversupply and feel that your program has enough supply of N95 masks until February 14th, please connect with SSHA and the order can be paused and resumed the week after as needed.

## CAMPAIGN VACCINATION TORONTO

TSN is currently still expanding its pool of Peer Champions beyond priority shelter sites (i.e., sites with less than 50% vaccine uptake rate). Please contact Maiesha Rahman at [maiesharahman.tsn@gmail.com](mailto:maiesharahman.tsn@gmail.com) if your site is interested in participating in the initiative or would like to request a Peer Champion/Ambassador visit to support your on-site vaccination activities.

# COVID-19 TRANSITION PLAN

- On Jan 17, the Board of Health voted on a number of motions related to the COVID-19 response, including some motions related to temporary shelter sites. Details [here](#).
- Broader engagement related to the Transition Plan is on hold due to Omicron. However, please still feel free to reach out to Amy Buitenhuis ([amy.buitenhuis@toronto.ca](mailto:amy.buitenhuis@toronto.ca)) if you would like to discuss transitioning planning at your site.

# EMERGENCY SHELTER AND HOMELESSNESS WORKER APPRECIATION WEEK

Last week Mayor John Tory proclaimed the week of January 24th to 30th to be Emergency Shelter and Homelessness Service Worker Appreciation Week! We want to thank and honour all emergency shelter and homeless service workers for their unwavering commitment to helping others every day, as well as those who attended our events! Click [HERE](#) to view a special video message from Mayor Tory as well as visit our Twitter page [HERE](#) where we have been highlighting our peer champions stories as well as shelter workers, and all of the amazing work that they do!

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February marks black history month. TSN plans to celebrate the month with a number of different activities.

- We invite members of the black community to send in photos that showcase their talents, aspirations, etc. We also hope to highlight the significant contributions of Black frontline staff as well as our Peer Champions.
- The All Member Meeting will be taking place on *Wednesday February 23rd at 1pm*. The session will focus on anti-black racism and how to better meeting the needs of black clients in the shelter system.
- ABR work does not stop. In March we will be hosting a panel featuring shelter initiatives that are furthering ABR work in the sector.

Also be on the look out for upcoming panels! For more upcoming information please stay tuned for emails as well as updates on our [website](#)!

# FRONTLINE WORKER SUPPORT SESSIONS

- TSN has organized monthly mental health and wellness check-ins for frontline shelter workers, facilitated by Chris Leonard! Join us in an interactive virtual space where she guides us to unpack and process the hard work and effects of frontline shelter workers.
- The next session will be taking place on *February 22, 2022 from 1pm-3pm*. To join the Zoom session please click [HERE](#).
- If you have any questions please contact Soha at [coordinator.tsn@gmail.com](mailto:coordinator.tsn@gmail.com)

## WEBINARS AND EVENTS:

### *Current Vaccination Status at Reporting Shelter Locations:*

All programs:

- 76% have received first dose!
- 66% are fully vaccinated!
  
- POS Shelters are at 75% vaccinated!
- DOS shelters are at 73% vaccinated!

Youth programs:

- 75% have received their first dose!
- 65% are fully vaccinated!



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

**Date:** Friday February 4th 2022  
**Time:** 10am - 11am

