



MAY 20, 2022

# TSN NEWSLETTER

MEMBER UPDATE FROM THE TORONTO SHELTER NETWORK



## COVID-19 AND VACCINES

### *Novavax Vaccine*

- The Novavax vaccine is a new option for those who have been unable (due to an allergy) or unwilling to receive an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. The Novavax vaccine is a protein subunit vaccine. The vaccine uses small pieces of a protein to teach our immune system to make antibodies that recognize and fight COVID-19. This is similar to how many influenza vaccines work to protect health.
- This vaccine was authorized for use by Health Canada on February 17, 2022, for adults aged 18+.
- The Novavax vaccine is available at all City-run clinics through appointment only. To book an appointment please click [HERE](#)
- Click [HERE](#) for a Novavax fact sheet from Toronto Public Health.

### *ICHA Virtual Clinic Support*

- Inner City Health Associates (ICHA) is continuing to offer virtual clinical support to shelters for residents who are isolating in-situ under direction of Toronto Public Health as a result of a shelter outbreak.
- This aim of this program is to support residents with non-urgent health care concerns during their in-situ isolation. This program runs from Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.
- To book an appointment please click [HERE](#). For more information, please see attached in the email.

### *Reminders*

- Masks or face covering requirements continue to apply in shelters and congregate care settings until further notice.
- Service providers are encouraged and can continue to access free rapid antigen tests by clicking [HERE](#). The provincial antigen screening program has been extended until at least July 31st, 2022.
- Practice Health Check is continuing to assess all sites and re-assessing shelters visited earlier this year to follow up on IPAC recommendations and conducting Outbreak Management support meetings.

### WEBINARS AND EVENTS:

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

**Date:** May 27th 2022

**Time:** 10:00am - 11:00am

### TORONTO NEWCOMER DAY

**DATE:** MAY 25TH,  
2022

**TIME:** 10AM TO 3PM

**LOCATION:**  
NATHAN PHILLIPS  
SQUARE, 100  
QUEEN ST W

## COVID-19 TRANSITION PLAN

- 200 surveys have been completed with shelter clients.
- The BGM group is continuing to do additional consultation with service providers and clients and a report is expected to come out in June. TSN will continue to provide updates

## RECRUITMENT FOR HARM REDUCTION ADVISORY GROUP

- The City of Toronto- Shelter Support and Housing Administration (SSHA) is developing an advisory group and are recruiting 10 people with lived/living experience of substance use and homelessness and will be accepting applications for members for a six (6) month period with the possibility of extension.
- Advisory members will advise the SSHA-Shelter Harm Reduction Implementation Working Group on the development of harm reduction policies, training, services and programming.
- Members will meet bi-weekly on Thursday's from 1pm-3pm in a central downtown location and will have the option to meet in person or virtually and will be compensated at a cash rate of \$25.00 per hour.
- For more information please see the attached poster and recruitment posting and share with your clients and networks.

## 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 May 31st, 2022 from 1pm-3pm. To join the Zoom session, please click [HERE](#) for the Zoom link.  
Meeting ID: 897 3614 4381  
Passcode: 881952
- If you have any questions please contact Soha at [coordinator.tsn@gmail.com](mailto:coordinator.tsn@gmail.com)

## 2022 PROVINCIAL ELECTION RESOURCES

- The Toronto Drop-In Network has created a toolkit for the upcoming provincial elections on June 2nd 2022. This toolkit provides many different resources for staff and clients for the upcoming election.
- To view the TDIN Provincial Elections Toolkit please click [HERE](#). Please share this resource with staff members and clients.
- Settlement.org has created a FAQ guide to voting in Ontario's Provincial election. To view the guide, please click [HERE](#).

## WEBINARS AND EVENTS:

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

#### *All programs:*

- *76% have received first dose!*
- *68% 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!*

