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Wednesday, May 26 Update

Dear Neighbour,

It is so exciting to hear that over 65% of Torontonians have received at least one vaccine dose, and the number is growing fast. I'm also excited to announce that we have pop-up clinics operating in our riding this week and next, so please sign-up if you're eligible.

I'm hearing from many of you about the government's failure to include schools and daycare centres in Ontario's reopening plan. It's vital that we listen to public health because there's no clear path forward, and there are consequences and risks if schools open or stay closed.

Like many of you, I am very frustrated that we got to this point in the first place, where we are still advocating for measures to make our schools safer 15 months into the pandemic, and that this government continues to allow construction to stay open while parents and kids are forced to remain at home. Schools should be the first to open and the last to close, and measures should be taken as soon as possible to ensure schools are safe. We are following this issue very closely.

Please reach out to my office if you have questions or concerns.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jessica Bell'.

Jessica Bell (MPP for University-Rosedale)

My newsletter this week includes:

- [Two vaccine pop-up clinics in UniRose this week!](#)
- [Schools, youth left out of Ontario's reopening plan](#)
- [My new PMB centres youth in pandemic recovery.](#)

- [Tenant, father of two, illegally evicted from home](#)
- [NDP relieved McVety is not getting a university](#)
- [New report shows Ford's failure to act on opioids crisis](#)
- [Panel discussion for prospective candidates tomorrow](#)
- [New reopening plan: What you need to know](#)

COVID-19 VACCINE POP-UPS
First dose only, Pfizer or Moderna

Adults 18+ who: live, work, receive services, care for family, study or volunteer in the M5T area code

CECIL COMMUNITY CENTRE

May 25 10:00AM—8:00PM
May 26 10:00AM—8:00PM

58 Cecil Street,
Toronto, M5T 1N6

Bring mail or ID with your address on it

416-392-1090

Drop-in and appointments available. Call to book an appointment or if you need accommodations. Childminding available.

SCADDING COURT COMMUNITY CENTRE

May 27 9:00AM—5:00PM
May 28 9:00AM—6:00PM

707 Dundas Street W, rear
Toronto, M5T 2W6

Bring mail or ID with your address on it & Health card if you have one

Jessica Bell
MP for University-Rosedale

Need help? jbell-co@ndp.on.ca / 416-535-7206 / jessicabellmpp.ca/popup

流動新冠疫苗診所
僅限首劑接種，輝瑞 或 莫德納

在郵政編號開頭為M5T居住、工作、就學、或當義工、18歲或以上人士

**施素街社區中心
CECIL COMMUNITY CENTRE**

5月25日 上午10:00—晚上8:00
5月26日 上午10:00—晚上8:00

施素街58號
58 Cecil Street,
Toronto, M5T 1N6

請攜帶一封有你住址的信或顯示你住址的身份證明文件

647-514-9888

不預約的長者、殘障人士、行動不便者、露宿者或其他需要特別幫助的人，可打電話提前預約。施素街社區中心流動新冠疫苗診所同時設有臨時託兒服務。

**西城社區中心
SCADDING COURT COMMUNITY CENTRE**

5月27日 上午9:00—下午5:00
5月28日 上午9:00—下午6:00

登打士西街707號
707 Dundas Street W, rear
Toronto, M5T 2W6

請攜帶一封有你住址的信或顯示你住址的身份證明文件

416-392-0335

貝詩雅
大學、市議會區議員

需要其他幫助? jbell-co@ndp.on.ca / 437-370-1733 / jessicabellmpp.ca/popups

Vaccine pop-ups in UniRose this week

I am excited to announce that two vaccine pop-up clinics will be offering vaccines to residents in University-Rosedale with an M5T postal code!

[Scadding Court Community Centre](#) at 707 Dundas Street West, Rear, and will be offering vaccines **May 27th and May 28th from 9am-5pm**. [More info here](#).

Make sure you bring Bring mail or ID with your address on it to the clinic, and a health card if you have one.

I've posted this information and more on my website at jessicabellmpp.ca/popups and will do our best to alert you of any future vaccine pop-ups as we become aware.

A big thanks to [Friends of Kensington Market](#), [Cecil Community Centre](#), and community health partners for organizing an earlier pop-up that took place May 25th and May 26th!

Reminder to all residents:

All residents in Ontario aged 18+ are eligible to book a vaccine appointment.

There are currently five ways to find a vaccine.

1. Visit a [City-run clinic](#).
2. Visit a [hospital-run site](#).
3. Book through [a local pharmacy](#).

4. Call the provincial booking line for staff-assisted booking at 1-833-943-3900
5. Find [a local pop-up](#).

If you are having any trouble accessing any of these services, or require special consideration to access vaccines, please let me know and I can help make the connection.



Me and my two kids offering water and granola bars to people waiting in line for their vaccine at Cecil Community Centre.

Schools, youth left out of Ontario's reopening plan

Despite [top pediatric organizations](#) in the province calling on the Ford government to prioritize getting students back in schools safely, the reopening plan announced last week gave no indication of how and when kids will be returning to the classroom.

Like many of you, I am frustrated by the Ford government's consistent failure to prioritize the health and safety of students, families and their communities. The impact of school closures and the resulting isolation on the health and

wellbeing of children and youth is growing and cannot be ignored. That's why I am joining my colleagues in demanding the Ford government come up with an action plan to get kids back into classrooms safely. It's well past time the Ford government invested in smaller class sizes, better ventilation and upgrades like touchless faucets.

Everyday we delay making these critical investments, we risk kids falling further behind and deeper into a mental health crisis.



Jessica Bell
MPP University-Rosedale

**SUPPORT
KIDS & YOUTH
SUPPORT
BILL 297!**

JESSICABELLMPP.CA/BILL297

My new PMB centres youth in pandemic recovery

Last week, I was [proud to join NDP MPP Marit Stiles](#) in tabling our new bill the [Centering Youth in Pandemic Recovery Act](#). If passed, the Bill would establish three important measures to ensure children, youth, and young adults are centered in all recovery planning:

1. It will create a Post-Pandemic Child & Youth Action Plan in consultation with youth leaders and experts in education (including ed workers & school boards), child development and mental health
2. The Bill also establishes the COVID-19 Recovery Youth Secretariat, to assist with the development, revision and implementation of the Action Plan and review legislation and regulations to determine the potential effects on the well-being of children, youth and youth adults.
3. The Bill also enshrines accountability, by appointing a new standing committee to review the development and implementation of the Action Plan every two years, review data and research conducted by the Secretariat, and report to the Legislative Assembly.

I want to thank everyone in University-Rosedale who shared with me their concerns on youth mental health and wellness throughout this pandemic. Opposition bills have a long journey to become law, but the government can move to adopt these measures today. The sooner we act, the sooner we can help the next generation emerge from this pandemic stronger than ever.

[Add your name in support of my bill here.](#)

[Read the full press release here.](#)





Tenant, father of two, illegally evicted from home

On May 11th Alexi Chatzialis left his apartment to get a vaccine and protect himself, his family and community from COVID-19. When he returned, he found his landlord had removed his belongings and changed the locks. This was an illegal eviction that left a father and his two children homeless.

Alexi reached out to our office for help. We called the police to request they remove the locks on the door and give Alexi and his children access to their home. The police said there was nothing they could do. The Rental Housing Enforcement Unit also provided little support, telling Alexi it would take weeks

or months before they could intervene. We contacted the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB) and demanded an emergency hearing, which we were able to secure for July 20th 2021. But this is more than two months after Alexi's eviction and does nothing to make sure he has a safe place for his kids today.

Everyone agrees what happened to Alexi is illegal but there is very little anyone can or is willing to do to right this wrong. Our office will continue to support Alexi and his family. We will also advocate for changes to the Residential Tenancies Act, like my [Bill Protecting Tenants from Illegal Evictions](#) to make sure landlords who illegally evict tenants face stiff penalties. You can add your name in support of that bill [here](#).

You can also support renters by contacting the LTB and ask them to fast track hearings to address illegal evictions as fast as possible TS-ltb@ontario.ca. I also fully support measures to ensure everyone gets access to a fair and timely hearing at the LTB.

Watch my full member's statement [here](#).



NDP relieved McVety is not getting a university

In November 2020, the Ontario NDP fought hard to stop Doug Ford's plan to grant Charles McVety, president of Canada Christian College (CCC), the right to issue university degrees. Many in University-Rosedale joined that fight concerned about [McVety's hurtful statements against the 2SLGBTQIA+ and Muslim communities](#), and his connection to the Premier.

Last week, an independent advisory body [denied Canada Christian College university status](#).

While it is a massive relief Ford's plan to give McVety's organization university and degree-granting status has been stopped, we need to dispose of the

legislation that sought to give CCC the right in the first place. That's why next week, the NDP will table a bill rescinding [Schedule 2 of Bill 213](#).

New report shows Ford's failure to act on opioids crisis

According to a [report](#) published by the Ontario Drug Policy Research Network, opioid-related deaths have skyrocketed by 75 per cent during the pandemic, and are only getting worse.

University-Rosedale is impacted by the opioid crisis. The Kensington area is one of Ontario's hotspots. Myself, St Stephens, the local school, and community groups like Friends of Kensington Market, have been calling for the Ontario government to financially support a safe injection site at St Stephen's. The government refuses to do so. You can support St Stephens directly by donating to <https://www.sscto.ca/ways-to-give/donate>.

From March to December last year, 2,050 people died from opioid overdoses. That's 2,050 families mourning the loss of a loved one due to addiction. It's especially painful knowing these deaths could have been prevented if harm reduction services and addiction treatment beds were available and easily accessible in our province. Sadly, these critical services are few and far between due to this government's continued inaction and funding cuts.

Ford must stop ignoring this public health crisis and act immediately to prevent deaths. At the very minimum, he must reconvene the [Opioid Emergency Task Force](#). Ignoring this crisis won't make it go away, and will only lead to more pain and suffering for Ontario families.

If you have been impacted by the opioid crisis and you have advice on what you want us to do, or are interested in sharing your experience, please send me an email jbell-co@ndp.on.ca.

Running as a Woman, Non-Binary or Gender Diverse Person: Panel Discussion



Marjorie Knight
Candidate, Cambridge



Judith Monteith-Farrell
MPP, Thunder Bay—Atikokan



Felicia Samuel
Candidate, Scarborough—Rouge Park



Sara Singh
MPP, Brampton Centre

RSVP at ontariondp.ca/candidate-panel

Thursday, May 27 at 7 p.m.

Panel discussion for prospective candidates tomorrow

In 2018, the NDP elected the most diverse Official Opposition that Ontario has ever seen. In preparation for the 2022 election, we are pledging to nominate, empower and elect candidates that reflect the incredible diversity of communities across Ontario - and we want you to join us!

Building on successful sessions for folks from equity-seeking groups, Black folks, and 2SLGBTQ folks interested in candidacy, we bring you **Running as a Woman, Non-Binary or Gender Diverse Person: Panel Discussion**.

Join us on **Thursday, May 27th at 7:00PM EST** to hear from our panel of elected and nominated women, about their experiences in running as a candidate for the Ontario NDP.

[Click here to register!](#)

New reopening plan: What you need to know

- Ontario allowed more outdoor recreational amenities to reopen, with restrictions in place, effective Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 12:01 a.m.:
 - This includes: golf courses, tennis courts, skateboarding parks, sports fields, BMX and skate parks, shooting ranges and archery ranges, and others, with restrictions.
 - A maximum of 5 people will be permitted for outdoor gatherings.
- A new three-step reopening plan has been announced, tied to vaccination rates. The province will remain in each of the steps for at least 21 days to evaluate any impacts on key public health indicators.

Based on current trends in key health indicators, including the provincial vaccination rate, the government expects to enter Step One of this plan on the week of June 14, 2021.

Step One includes:

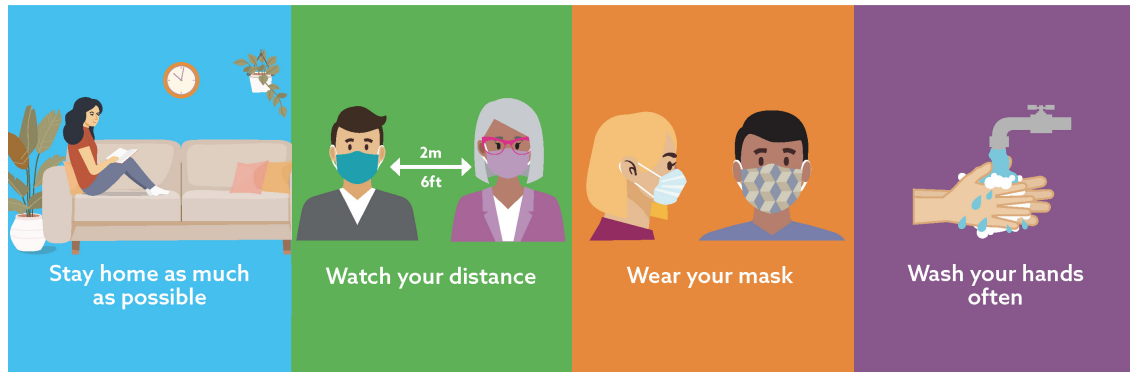
- Outdoor gatherings up to 10 people;
- Outdoor dining (patios) up to 4 people per table;
- Outdoor fitness classes, personal training and sports training up to 10 people;
- Essential retail at 25 per cent capacity and can sell all goods (including discount and big box);
- Non-essential retail at 15 per cent capacity;
- Retail stores in malls closed unless the stores have a street facing entrance;
- Outdoor religious services, rites and ceremonies with capacity limited to permit 2 metres' physical distancing;
- Horse racing and motor speedways without spectators;
- Outdoor horse riding;
- Outdoor pools, splash pads and wading pools with capacity limited to permit 2 metres' physical distancing;
- Outdoor zoos, landmarks, historic sites, and botanical gardens with capacity limits;
- Campsites, campgrounds and short-term rentals; and Ontario Parks.

Step Two will further expand outdoor activities and will resume limited indoor services with small numbers of people where face coverings are worn, including personal services. Outdoor cinema and performing arts events, outdoor sports leagues and overnight camps would be permitted in this step.

[Read more of what's included in this reopening plan here.](#)

4 STEPS FOR SELF-PROTECTION

We all have a role to play to help reduce COVID-19 spread & keep our city safe:



TORONTO.CA/COVID19

 **TORONTO** Public Health

Now is the time to follow public health guidelines

As COVID-19 cases climb in Ontario, please consider these reminders from Toronto Public Health to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

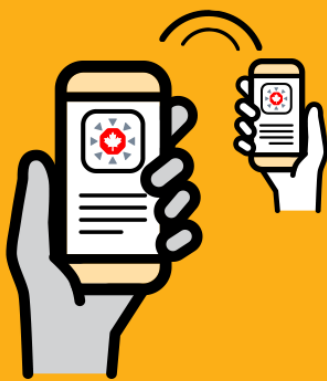
The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed:



- Limit non-essential trips out of your home and follow [travel advice](#)
- Keep [two metres \(six feet\) distance](#) from others
- [Wear a mask or face covering](#) in indoor public spaces and when you can't keep physical distance
- Clean your hands often. Use soap and water or an alcohol-based (70-90 per cent) hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your elbow or a tissue. Immediately throw the tissue in the garbage and wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home if you are feeling unwell

Download the [COVID Alert app](#) so you can be notified directly if you have been in close contact with someone who was contagious with COVID-19. I have

downloaded the app and I encourage you to do the same.

**Protect your
community.
Download the
COVID Alert app.**





Note that this email and all previous COVID-19 updates are available at: www.jessicabellmpp.ca/coronavirus

As always, if you require urgent assistance from my office, please contact my team at 416-535-7206 or email us at jbell-co@ndp.on.ca



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