

Queen's Park

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Hon. Christine Elliott College Park 5th Floor, 777 Bay St Toronto, ON M7A 2J3 VIA Email

May 10, 2021

Dear Minister Elliott,

Further to our meeting of April 23, 2021 – and as raised on several occasions in the Legislature – I am writing today to discuss concerns with the vaccine roll-out in my riding of Davenport. Since the Premier's April 12 announcement that Ontarians in 114 hot-spot postal codes (including four in my riding alone) would be prioritized, my constituents have been patiently waiting for their turn to get vaccinated.

I have been in regular contact with representatives from our local community health centre, the Ontario Health Team as well as hospital representatives. I know they are working tremendously hard to reach as many people as possible, as quickly as possible, and have been doing great work to reach the most vulnerable in our community through mobile and targeted clinics. My staff and I have been working hard to spread the word to residents and have hosted three town halls on vaccination.

That being said, residents have raised concerns with me that their options to get a vaccine close to home are limited. They are seeing drop-in and pop-up clinics open around the city, but essential frontline workers have been forced to seek out vaccines by following twitter accounts and then racing to locations of upwards of an hour away-often taking multiple transit routes, bus, subway, etc., to wait in line.

Last week, the City's mass vaccination sites were finally opened to all hot-spot residents 18+ but appointments there are limited. Pharmacies in our riding are now out of Astra-Zeneca and it is unclear when more will come. Time and again I am hearing the same question: "I thought we were a priority postal code?"

Now that overall supply is increasing, and progress is being made in reaching vulnerable populations, I am writing to call on you again to do more to assist our local health teams get vaccines out directly in our community to the broader 18+ **population.** My office has already submitted ideas for locations that could work as pop-ups in hot-spot postal codes M6E, M6H, M6N and M6K.

Community centres and other public buildings in Davenport could be put to good use hosting pop-up clinics for the broader public and could help speed up the immunization process.

Thank you for your urgent consideration of this request and I look forward to your reply.

Marit Stiles, MPP

Davenport