



December 7, 2020

## TIME SENSITIVE: RHRA Collecting Information to Facilitate COVID-19 Vaccinations for Retirement Home Residents and Staff

Today the Ontario government announced retirement home residents and staff will be among the first group to receive COVID-19 vaccines. Retirement home residents, along with staff, essential caregivers, and other employees of retirement homes who provide care for seniors are among the first groups of people to be vaccinated, since they are at higher risk of infection and serious illness from COVID-19. Your help is needed. To support an efficient and safe immunization experience, we are asking retirement homes to fill out an important survey to help with Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility (MSAA) planning and implementation, especially in determining distribution, logistics and administration.

**The RHRA will distribute the survey TODAY to the operations manager we have on file for your home. The survey is specific to your home and it is critical that this survey is completed to the best of your ability to help facilitate vaccine distribution. The deadline to provide the information is 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9.** RHRA will consolidate this information and provide it to the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility. **We ask that you prioritize the submission of your information.**

In addition to this survey, it is prudent that you begin to prepare a list of your resident and staff's first and last names. Submission of this information may be requested shortly.

Only vaccines that Health Canada determines to be safe and effective will be approved for use in the country. Before any vaccines are available in Ontario or Canada, they will undergo rigorous clinical trials to determine if they are safe and effective, and be evaluated and authorized for use by Health Canada using rigorous standards. Once a vaccine is approved and in use, Health Canada will continue to monitor it to ensure it continues to be safe and effective.

As further information is made available about the various type of vaccines and availability of doses, additional details related to the implementation of the COVID-19 immunization program will be provided based on the latest medical advice and scientific evidence.

Should you have questions, please email [covid19survey@rhra.ca](mailto:covid19survey@rhra.ca)

Thank you in advance for your participation and cooperation.

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