

May 31, 2021

To the municipal councils of Simcoe Muskoka:

The response to the COVID-19 pandemic has required a whole of community approach with many agencies and individuals sharing in the response. This has very much included our municipalities on a variety of fronts including the enforcement of public health control measures in workplaces and public places, and public education and communication.

One of the key elements of our response has been the vaccination of the majority of the eligible population of Simcoe Muskoka. Our municipalities have contributed to our vaccination campaign with the provision of municipal facilities, equipment, and personnel. A number of our municipalities have also supported us by taking a large volume of our phone calls in order to assist with the booking of vaccinations and with the response to some of the questions that come to the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit.

These contributions of our municipalities are making a substantial difference. Recently Simcoe Muskoka reached an important milestone, with 60% of our adult population having received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. We are seeing the direct effect of vaccination, as well as the effect of the other public health measures supported by our municipalities with declining weekly COVID-19 case counts since mid-April. The actions of our municipalities are helping to curb infections and hospitalizations locally and across the province.

We would like to take this moment to thank our municipalities for these critically important contributions to the response of this pandemic and to help protect our communities and residents from the impacts of the pandemic. There is still much to be done, and time and caution will be needed to achieve a lasting control of the pandemic in our communities; however it is through our collective efforts that we will proceed to a safer and healthier state in Simcoe Muskoka.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Anita Dubeau
Chair, Board of Health

CG:AD:cm

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Dr. Charles Gardner
Medical Officer of Health & CEO

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