



TOM MRAKAS
MAYOR

**For Immediate Release
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GTHA MAYORS AND CHAIRS FOCUSED ON LOCAL VACCINATION EFFORTS

"Today, Mayors and Chairs from the 11 largest municipal governments across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area held their regular meeting to discuss the ongoing response to COVID-19 across the region.

All GTHA municipalities have seen strong uptake of COVID-19 vaccinations and are continuing to make steady progress towards the province's goal of having 90 per cent of eligible residents vaccinated.

The Mayors and Chairs discussed the ongoing work across the region by their respective health units to help unvaccinated residents receive their first and second doses. They compared targeted vaccination initiatives and will explore the possibility of a region-wide program to continue to drive vaccination numbers up.

We continue to urge all eligible residents to get vaccinated so they will have the best protection possible against COVID-19 and so we can bring this pandemic to an end and protect our progress reopening the region. We want schools, businesses, sports and entertainment venues to remain open and vaccinations are the key.

In their first meeting since the 2021 federal election, the Mayors and Chairs congratulated Prime Minister Trudeau on his election win and committed to continuing to work with the Government of Canada on the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This will include stepped up discussions with both provincial and federal governments with respect to anticipated 2022 municipal budget shortfalls caused by the pandemic including in particular reduced transit ridership."

- 30 -

