



Grey Bruce
Public Health

Primary Care Update

A monthly newsletter for healthcare practitioners in Grey-Bruce

Issue #01

February 2023

Ontario's Chief MOH provides update on respiratory illness season

- Ontario seeing decline in RSV, influenza, and COVID-19 activity.
- Residents must remain vigilant as many jurisdictions continue seeing a rise in cases of the more transmissible XBB.1.5 variant of COVID-19.

Influenza B confirmed in Grey-Bruce

- First local case of Influenza B of the 2022-23 flu season recorded earlier than usual.

CCSA releases new Guidance on Alcohol and Health

- Drinking 3-6 standard alcoholic beverages weekly increases a person's risk of developing several types of cancer, including colon and breast.
- Consuming more than two standard drinks per occasion is associated with an increased risk of harms to self and others, including injuries and violence.

Province expanding virtual counselling program for youth

- "One Stop Talk" offers convenient ways to talk to a clinician by phone, video conference, text, and chat, without an appointment.

Update from GBPH's Vaccine Preventable Diseases Team

- 5,700 school immunizations provided to eligible students so far this school year.
- 31,000+ influenza vaccines distributed this respiratory season to healthcare providers, hospitals, LTC/RH, and workplaces in Grey-Bruce.
- 58% of eligible individuals aged 70+ have received a fall bivalent COVID-19 booster.

Public Health Alerts/Memos for Health Care Professionals: Latest Posts

- Jan. 3, 2023: [Student Immunization Records](#)
- Jan. 24, 2023: [Launch of Primary Care Newsletter](#)

Resources/Information for Health Care Professionals

- [National influenza mid-season report, 2022–2023: A rapid and early epidemic onset](#), Canada Communicable Diseases Report.
- [Novel six-month all oral treatment of pre-extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis in Canada: New treatment options present new implementation challenges](#), CCRC.

Educational opportunities

- [Life Beyond Trauma: A discussion on PTSD and Trauma-Informed Care](#), Ontario College of Family Physicians, Feb. 22, 2023, 7:55 a.m., Zoom.
- [Improving Care and Reducing Overdose Risk for Indigenous People Living with Opioid Use Disorder](#), National Safer Supply of Community Practice, Available now.

Grey Bruce Public Health Media Releases - January 2023:

- [Jan. 27, 2023 - Public Health reporting two fatal opioid overdoses in Grey-Bruce](#)
- [Jan. 17, 2023 - Public Health marking National Non-Smoking Week](#)
- [Jan. 10, 2023 - GBPH resuming in-school vaccine clinics for routine immunizations](#)
- [Jan. 3, 2023 - Grey-Bruce COVID-19 Task Force winds up](#)