



Ontario Association of
Children's Aid Societies

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every
shot
counts 

December 8, 2021

The purpose of *VaxFacts* is to share credible and up to date information about the COVID-19 vaccine to assist with the conversations you are having with children, youth and families. If you have a resource or event that you think the sector would benefit from, send it to us via covid19@oacas.org and don't hesitate to share this email.

Check out oacas.org/EveryShotCounts and oacas.org/maxthevax for a collection of the best resources from previous editions of *VaxFacts* and more!

COVID-19 Updates

- Omicron, the new variant of concern remains a worry in Ontario. Although the impact is not yet known, the initial data shows that vaccines (especially boosters) offer good protection against serious illness and that masking, maintaining distance where possible, good hand hygiene and avoiding large gatherings is important.
- The [Science Table Modelling](#) from December 7th, expresses concern about the trajectory COVID-19 and the benefit of vaccination is clearly demonstrated.

- In view of the above, the Ontario Government has signalled that their previously stated March “expiry” of requiring to show vaccine certificate for certain spaces/activities, will be extended. Details will be officially communicated in January and you can download your proof of vaccine [here](#).

COVID-19 Vaccination Updates

- The US hit a milestone in vaccines for 5-11 earlier this week with over 5 million doses of pediatric Pfizer given. Of these, there have been no cases of myocarditis reported. Scientists believe that this is testament to the dosing being correct (remember kids receive 1/3 of the adult dose) and may be reassuring for some people who wanted to “wait and see” to know. Read more about it [here](#).
- Boosters are now available for anyone 50+ who received their last shot 6 months ago or meet one of the [other criteria](#). Boosters for everyone are expected to be available in the coming weeks.
- We have heard from some Members that their PHU's have been slow to stand up vaccine clinics for children. Clinics are ramping up across the province in the coming weeks (especially school based clinics) and across the system there are lots of spots available. If you aren't hearing about pop up clinics, check [here](#) to find the options locally.
- Congratulations to the agencies that have been able to host clinics! If you are interested in hosting a clinic but aren't sure where to start, get in touch! We can help!

Resources for caregivers and Young People

- We change out the resources on the [Max the Vax](#) website weekly to ensure that you have the best-and latest-resources to support the conversations you are having with families. Check it out and let us know if you'd like to see something that isn't there! Thanks to a generous donation from the Children's Aid Foundation of Canada, we can send stickers to your organization if this would be helpful to get people talking and learning! Click [here](#) for details.

What we're putting in our calendars...

- The Public Health Agency of Canada is hosting a COVID-19 Vaccines webinar for professionals that will include a presentation and discussion with live Q&A about COVID-19 in children and authorized COVID-19 vaccine for pediatric use in Canada. They are hosting the webinar in French (December 14th) and English (December 13th). Click here to find out more and to register [here](#).

About the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies:

Since 1912, OACAS has represented Ontario's Children's Aid Societies in Ontario and provided service in the areas of government relations, communications, information management, education and training to advocate for the protection and well-being of children.

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