

Scarborough Ontario Health Team Approved

DEBRA MCGONEGAL, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT

On Wednesday, November 18th the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health announced the Scarborough Ontario Health Team as one of the new teams in the province to implement a one-team approach to help keep clients, patients and families in our communities healthy and well.

“This is an important step on our journey together to provide collaborative, high-quality health and community services for the people of Scarborough and beyond. Today’s investment will not only help our province respond more effectively to the current global pandemic, but it will also help us end hallway

healthcare and build a better, patient-focused health care system for the future,” said Premier Ford.

Through an Ontario Health Team, patients will experience easier transitions from one provider to another, including, for example, between hospitals, home care providers or long-term care homes, with one patient story, one patient record and one care plan. As Ontario Health Teams are established, patients and families will also have access to 24/7 navigation and care coordination services.

Scarborough Ontario Health Team (SOHT) is a network of over thirty partner organizations with a history of collaboration providing health and community services across the continuum of care for the diverse community of patients and families in Scarborough. SOHT is working together with the Scarborough Family Practice Network of primary care physicians and includes a Client and Family Advisory Committee to help co-design practical solutions to providing care.

“SCHC is proud to be one of the leading partners in the SOHT. This collaboration will greatly benefit our diverse community”, said Jeanie Argiopolis, CEO of SCHC.

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Drive-thru model for the flu shot a success

NAILAH DUNCAN, REGISTERED NURSE

Toronto Public Health stresses that “it is important for everyone who can to get their flu shot this year. The flu vaccine will not protect you against COVID-19, but it will protect you from the flu or reduce the severity of illness from the flu. It will also prevent our health care system from being overwhelmed with additional patient visits, and it may even reduce the need for you to get tested for COVID-19, as the symptoms are very similar.” (<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/>)



[health-programs-advice/immunization/flu-influenza/](https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/health-programs-advice/immunization/flu-influenza/)

The nurses at SCHC have been running outreach flu vaccine clinics for the past month. We have been able to reach over 600 people in the community who might not have received the vaccine

otherwise. In total we will complete 19 outreach clinics within the community. Our largest clinics were the drive-thru clinics at the Scarborough Chinese Alliance Church with over 300 people vaccinated. This initiative was created in order to provide quick access for the flu vaccine with a low exposure to people in the comfort of their vehicles. Many people welcomed this drive-thru model. It has been an amazing experience to be able to vaccinate and interact with people in our community.