



by **FIELDGATE**  
Retirement Living



## Active Ageing

### COVID-19 AND VACCINATIONS



ISSUE 1, FEBRUARY, 2021

THE POWER OF JOY.....VACCINE ROLLOUT BRINGS HAPPINESS, RELIEF AND MUCH NEEDED RAY OF LIGHT TO KINGSWAY PLACE RETIREMENT LIVING RESIDENTS.



#### EARLY VACCINE DATA OFFERS HOPE

JERUSALEM — Israel, which leads the world in vaccinating its population against the coronavirus, has produced some encouraging news: Although results are preliminary, they show a significant drop in infection after just one shot of a two-dose vaccine, and better than expected results after both doses. Public Health experts caution that the data, based on the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, has not been subjected to clinical trials. Even so, Dr. Anat Ekka Zohar, vice president of Maccabi Health Services, one of the Israeli health maintenance organizations that released the data, calls it “very encouraging.”

Continued from pg. 1

## EARLY VACCINES OFFER HOPE

The Israeli Health Ministry and Maccabi released new data on people who had received both doses of the vaccine, showing extremely high rates of effectiveness. The ministry found that out of 428,000 Israelis who had received their second doses, a week later only 63, or 0.014 percent, had contracted the virus. Similarly, the Maccabi data showed that more than a week after having received the second dose, only 20 out of roughly 128,600 people, about 0.01 percent.

In clinical trials the Pfizer vaccine proved 95 percent effective after two doses in preventing coronavirus infection in people without evidence of previous infection. The Israeli results, if they hold up, suggest the efficacy could be even higher, though rigorous comparisons to unvaccinated people have not yet been published.

“This is very encouraging data,” Dr. Zohar said. “We will monitor these patients closely in order to examine if they continue to suffer from mild symptoms only and do not develop complications as a result of the virus.”

## COVID-19 VACCINES FOR ONTARIO

Vaccines are safe, effective and the best way to protect you and those around you from serious illnesses like COVID-19.

Vaccines work with your immune system so your body will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. This can reduce your risk of developing COVID-19 and make your symptoms milder if you do get it.

Our supply will not arrive all at once, so distribution will happen in stages. The goal is for everyone in Ontario to be able to get a COVID-19 vaccination if they want one, as soon as enough doses are available from manufacturers.

## COVID-19 VACCINE SAFETY

Safe and reliable vaccines can help protect you and your family from COVID-19.

They will be an important tool to help stop the spread of the virus and allow individuals, families and workers to safely resume normal life. The coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine does not cause a coronavirus infection. It helps to build up your immunity to the virus, so your body will fight it off more easily if it affects you.

After independent and thorough scientific reviews for safety, efficacy and quality, Health Canada has approved two vaccines for use in Canada:

- Pfizer-BioNTech – approved on December 9, 2020
- Moderna – approved on December 23, 2020

Both vaccines are manufactured in Belgium. After two doses, they are expected to be 94-95% effective. Understanding how COVID-19 vaccines are approved, how they work and possible side effects is important.

The coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine does not cause a coronavirus infection. It helps to build up your immunity to the virus, so your body will fight it off more easily if it affects you.

This can reduce your risk of developing coronavirus and make your symptoms milder if you do get it.

The effectiveness and immune response of the vaccine is being monitored as the vaccine is rolled out.

Vaccination is expected to be an effective way to prevent the spread and reduce the impact of COVID-19.

Continued on pg. 3

## Short Term Stays

*When you need to heal, or just want a break.*

### *Respite Stays*

Respite stays at Kingsway Place are designed to give your loved one a comfortable, caring experience. Professional care staff ensure they are well attended to and cared for, while other staff provide meals, entertainment and companionship, so you can recharge and enjoy a holiday with peace of mind.

### *Convalescent Stays*

After surgery or a visit to the hospital, seniors need a little more time to regain their strength and vitality. A convalescent stay gives them a positive, safe place to heal. With our 24 hour care, exercise classes, medication monitoring, nutrition and wellness being our top priority, your loved one will mend in quick time. Plus, all of our entertainment and activities are available when they feel ready to join in the fun.

### *Vacation Stays*

Tired of groceries, cooking and cleaning? It's time to vacation at a place that's fun and entertaining, in an environment designed for seniors. Stay in a furnished private room with private bath. Enjoy three nutritiously delicious meals served to you each day. Grab snacks and refreshments anytime in our lovely Bistro. Join in daily activities, games, and recreation to keep you as active as you would like.

## COVID-19 AND VACCINATIONS

Continued from pg. 2

COVID-19 vaccines work by training your body's immune system to recognize and fight the virus that causes the disease (SARS-CoV-2). To do this, the vaccine uses certain molecules or parts of the virus — called antigens — which trigger an immune response when they are introduced into the body through vaccination.

By injecting these antigens into the body, your immune system safely learns to:

- recognize the antigens
- produce antibodies to fight the antigens
- remember the antigens for the future

If the virus reappears, your immune system will recognize the antigens and attack them before the disease can develop and cause sickness.

### POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS

Serious adverse reactions to vaccines are extremely rare. They happen less than one time in a million.

Once a vaccine is in use, Canada has a strong vaccine safety monitoring system to alert Public Health authorities of changing trends or unusual adverse events that were not previously reported.

The side effects observed during the clinical trials for the approved vaccines are very similar to other vaccines. They were all mild or moderate and included things like pain at the site of injection, body chills, feeling tired and feeling feverish.

The vaccines cannot cause COVID-19. This is because they do not contain the SARS-CoV-2 virus responsible for the disease. However, if you come in contact with the virus just before or after you complete the vaccine series of two doses, you could still develop COVID-19.

To date, no serious adverse effects have been identified with the vaccines approved for use.

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/covid-19-vaccine-safety>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/25/world/middleeast/>

THIS AND THAT

WHAT A HISTORIC DAY AT KINGSWAY PLACE!

We are happy to report that all residents at Kingsway Place have received their first dose of the Pfizer vaccine.. Many thanks to the 17 plus health care professionals that showed up to vaccinate everyone. Paramedics, Public Health Nurses, Southlake Nurses and Physicians, as well as our own Doctor, were here to make sure everything ran smoothly.



Thank You  
**ESSENTIAL  
WORKERS!**

*Happy  
Valentine's Day!*

