

Bellwoods Community News

The latest news, updates and announcements



Message to Clients from Lori Holloway, CEO

I am so appreciative of the support from our entire community as we continue to manage the uncertainty of the pandemic. Someday soon this will be history and a shared memory.

Thank you all for your continuous support and flexibility.



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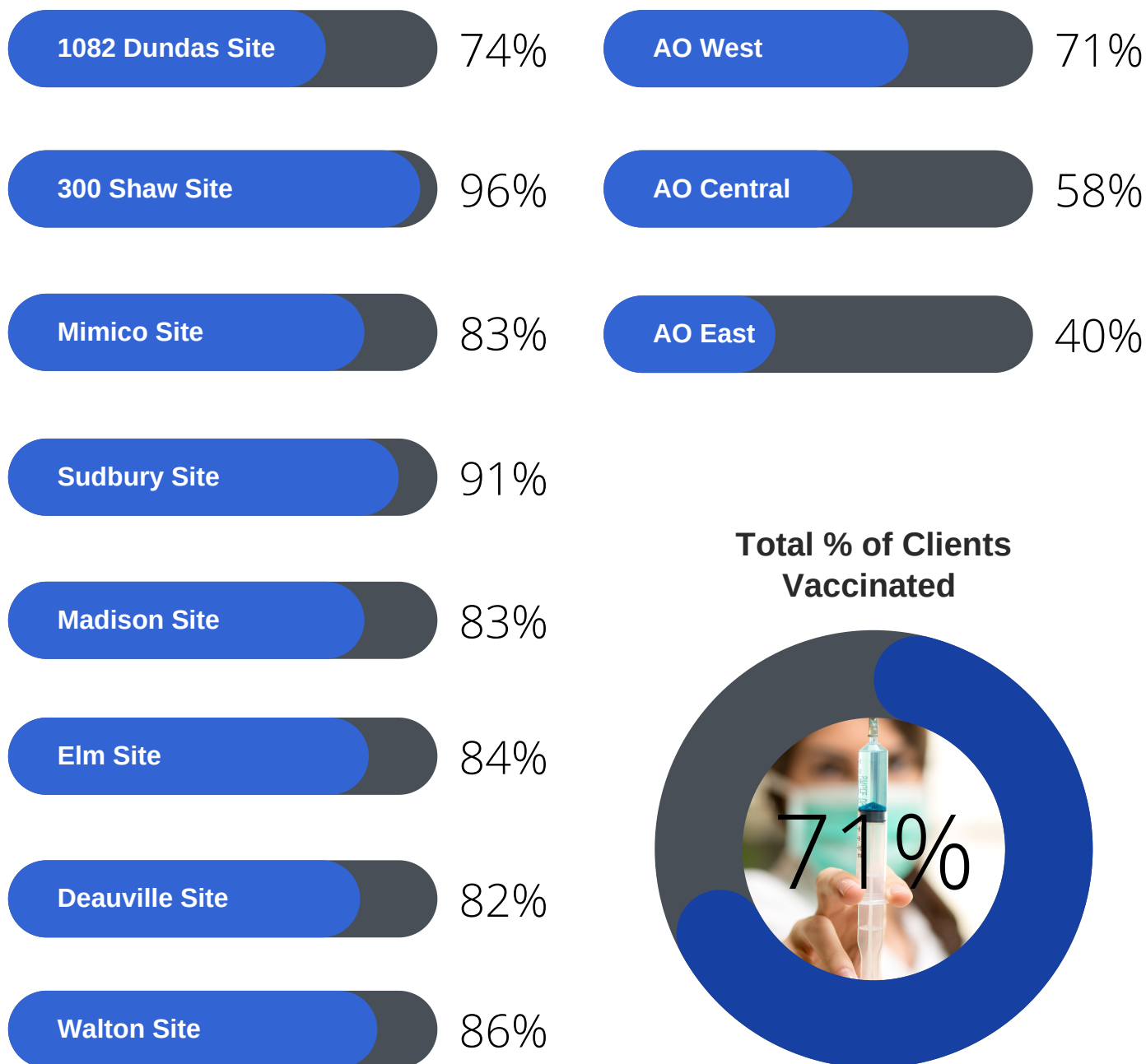
RESPONSE TO COVID-19

COVID-19 Vaccine 3rd Dose

As of January 25, 2022, 71% of Bellwoods clients received their third dose; 58% in Attendant Outreach (AO) and 84% in Supportive Housing (SH).

Over 55% of Bellwoods staff have received three doses. Bellwoods' has amended its vaccination policy that will require all staff to receive their mandatory third dose by February 18, 2022.

Here are the client vaccination rates by site.



Public Health Measures Eased

On Thursday, January 20, 2022, Ontario Premier Doug Ford announced that health measures will begin to be lifted cautiously and gradually with 21 days between each step.

As of **Monday, January 31, 2022**, changes will include:

- Increasing social gathering limits to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors.
- Increasing or maintaining capacity limits at 50% in indoor public settings, including but not limited to:
 - Restaurants, bars and other food establishments without dancing.
 - Retailers, including grocery stores, pharmacies and shopping malls.
 - Gyms and non-spectator areas of sports facilities.
 - Cinemas.
 - Meeting and event spaces.
 - Recreational amenities and amusement parks, including water parks.
 - Museums, galleries, aquariums, zoos and similar attractions.
 - Casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments.
 - Religious services, rites and ceremonies.
 - Arenas and concert venues will also be open at 50 per cent capacity or up to 500 people, which is less.

Effective February 21, 2022, Ontario will lift public health measures, including:

- Increasing social gathering limits to 25 people indoors and 100 people outdoors.
- Removing capacity limits in indoor public settings where proof of vaccination is required, including but not limited to restaurants, indoor sports and recreational facilities, cinemas, as well as other settings that choose to opt-in to proof of vaccination requirements.
- Permitting spectator capacity at sporting events, concert venues, and theatres at 50 per cent capacity.
- Limiting capacity in most remaining indoor public settings where proof of vaccination is not required to the number of people that can maintain two metres of physical distance.
- Indoor religious services, rites or ceremonies limited to the number that can maintain two metres of physical distance, with no limit if proof of vaccination is required.
- Increasing indoor capacity limits to 25 per cent in the remaining higher-risk settings where proof of vaccination is required, including nightclubs, wedding receptions in meeting or event spaces where there is dancing,

Effective March 14, 2022, Ontario will take additional steps to ease public health measures, including:

- Lifting capacity limits in all indoor public settings. Proof of vaccination will be maintained in existing settings in addition to other regular measures.
- Lifting remaining capacity limits on religious services, rites, or ceremonies.
- Increase social gathering limits to 50 people indoors with no limits for outdoor gatherings.




Enhanced vaccine certificates and masking requirements will remain in place.


Request a ride to your vaccination appointment.


Do you have a physical disability or mobility issue and no access to safe transportation during COVID-19?

The Accessible Drive-to-Vaccines program provides door-to-door rides to vaccination sites for people with disabilities, including seniors with mobility issues, who face challenges accessing safe transportation.

To be eligible, you must:

 Have a vaccine appointment booked for the date you are requesting transportation*; *[*Providers will do their best to accommodate rides to walk-in and pop-up vaccination clinics if they have driver availability]*

 Be a person with a disability, including physical, mental, developmental, learning, mobility, vision, or hearing impairment; and

 Have limited or no access to safe and accessible transportation or face barriers to getting to/from a COVID-19 vaccine appointment.

Ready to book your ride?

Request your ride at least 48 hours in advance to ensure the program can accommodate you on the day of your appointment.

Call 2-1-1 to request your ride.

- Your caregiver, support person, service animal, or guide dog may accompany you.
- Let the operator know if you'll need assistance inside the vaccination site.

News for Clients

Clearing Snow & Ice from the Sidewalk

The City of Toronto offers a sidewalk clearing service for seniors and people with a disability who live in any area where sidewalks cannot be plowed.

Please download the Snow Removal Application form: https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/950a-TS_Sidewalk-Snow-Clearing-Program-for-Seniors.pdf
Complete and submit it with the required documentation.

If you have any questions about the form, the service or are unable to print the form, please contact 3-1-1.

Contact information for winter inquiries and emergencies:

Self-service:
[toronto.ca/311](https://www.toronto.ca/311)
TTY: 416-338-0TTY (0889)
Fax: 416-338-0685
Email: 311@toronto.ca



Ontario's Seniors Home Safety Tax Credit Being Extended

The Ontario Government is helping seniors stay in their homes longer by extending the Seniors' Home Safety Tax Credit by one year, to 2022.

The *Seniors' Home Safety Tax Credit* is a refundable credit worth 25 per cent of up to \$10,000 per household in eligible expenses, to a maximum credit of \$2,500. It can be shared by people who live together, including spouses and common law partners.

This extension will assist seniors, or those living with senior relatives, to renovate their homes to make them safer and more accessible.

Quick Facts



- The Seniors' Home Safety Tax Credit is available to Ontario seniors or those who live with senior relatives regardless of their incomes and whether they owe any tax.
- Individuals can claim the credit for renovation expenses to their principal residence, either owned or rented, or to a residence that they reasonably expect to become their principal residence within the 24 months following the end of the year.
- To claim the tax credit, claimants should keep receipts from suppliers and contractors.

Wellness CONNECTION



HEALTH AND WELLNESS
PRESENTATIONS/DEMONSTRATIONS
AND FUN ACTIVITY!



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH, 2022 | 10 AM – 2 PM



OACAO

The Voice of Older Adult Centres
La voix des centres pour aînés

Program Agenda

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. **Opening/Greeting**

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. **Mindfulness Meditation**

Presented by Jessica Ullathorne, Yoga Therapy Practitioner

11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. **Falls Prevention: How to fall safely**

Presented by: Jose Balba, Physiotherapy Assistant

12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Virtual Wellness BINGO!**

Presented by: Active Living Programs Team

1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. **Holistic Nutrition 101**

Presented by Stephanny Leon, R.H.N Holistic Wellness Practitioner



**For more information,
please contact Active Living
Programs Team at
frontdesk@betterlivinghealth.org
or 416-447-7244 ext. 622**

Bridging the Gap Fund (BTGF)



*Applications are
being accepted
anytime for the
Bridging the Gap
Fund (BTGF)*

This fund is intended to '**Bridge the Gap**' for Bellwoods' clients experiencing periods of greater financial hardship.

If you need help or know of a client that does, apply or reach out to the Bridging the Gap Coordinator at 416-447-1168 or by email at ayip@bcclsp.org



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Charity Registration #:

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This newsletter is produced by Bellwoods a charitable, not-for-profit organization headquartered in Toronto. Bellwoods provides housing, personal support and reintegration services to individuals with a broad range of disabilities and also provides transition programs and supports for clients transitioning from hospital and/or those at-risk of homelessness.

Electronic copies of this newsletter are available on our website <https://bellwoodscentres.org/about-us/publications/> See Publications > Newsletters. For a printed copy and/or suggestion on content for future topics contact Anna Yip, Communications & Development Associate at 416-447-1168 or by email at ayip@bcclsp.org