



STEPHEN BLAIS, MPP / DÉPUTÉ

Orléans

December 13, 2021

Dr. Vera Etches
Medical Officer of Health
City of Ottawa
100 Constellation Drive
Ottawa, ON K2G 6J8

Dear Dr. Etches:

I am requesting your immediate and urgent intervention to ensure there is a COVID-19 booster vaccination site in Orléans. I have been trying to speak with you or a representative of your office for much of the day without success, hence my formal letter.

As we rapidly progress through this next wave of the pandemic it is clear there are capacity issues within the City of Ottawa and it seems that once again Orléans has been forgotten.

The vaccination centre at the Ruddy YMCA has seemingly worked well for the past stages of COVID-19 vaccinations so I remain unclear as to why it would not have been chosen to provide vaccine boosters now that they are available. If YMCA is not suitable, there are many other options in Orléans that could have been considered.

As you know Orléans is the largest of Ottawa's suburban communities and has amongst the highest concentration of francophones in the nation's capital. This is an equity issue from both a geographic and linguistic perspective.

I look forward to your positive response to this urgent and important request.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Blais".

Stephen Blais
Member of Provincial Parliament
Orléans

CC. Councillor Keith Egli – Chair, Ottawa Public Health