

## Special Message to Library Members

January 4, 2022

Dear Library Member,

Due to the Omicron variant and HPL's ongoing support of city-wide vaccination efforts, here's an update on what to expect at HPL in the coming weeks.

### **Keep the Hamilton Community Safe**

We respectfully ask all Members, including those who have received COVID-19 vaccines, to follow these safety rules:

- Ensure you follow current [Public Health Guidelines](#) to protect yourself and others.
- **Please always respect other Library Members and Staff by keeping your distance and wearing a mask and/or face shield.**
- To keep everyone safe and to comply with Provincial Public Health rules, HPL has temporarily reduced in-person capacity at all branches.
- HVAC enhancements, mask wearing, and enhanced cleaning keeps HPL a low-risk environment, however, **we request Members consider their personal risk safety and reduce the frequency and duration of Library visits.** Currently, we are not placing time limits on Library visits but this may change in the coming weeks.

### **Library Service Update**

**Temporary Service Hours** – Starting **Tuesday January 4**, the following service hours are in effect at **Central Library** and all **Branches**:

- **Tuesday-Thursday – 10am-6pm; Friday-Saturday – 10am-5pm**
- Exceptions:
  - Carlisle, Greensville and Mount Hope open at 1pm instead of 10am (Tuesday-Thursday 1-6pm, Friday-Saturday 1-5pm.)
  - Lynden: Staff are present Tuesday-Thursday- 1-6pm (Extended Access, 10am-6pm), Friday-Saturday – 12pm-5pm (Extended Access, 10am-5pm)
  - Freulton: Staff are present Tuesday 10am-3pm (Extended Access, 10am-6pm), Wednesday-Thursday 1-6pm (Extended Access, 10-6pm), Friday 10am-3pm (Extended Access, 10am-5pm) and Saturday 12pm-5pm (Extended Access, 10am-5pm)
- All locations are closed Sunday and Monday. Phone and online chat access is also closed.
- Members can continue to pick up holds or Grab and Go surprise bags, use a computer, and print, scan and copy documents. HPL's virtual branch is always open at [hpl.ca](http://hpl.ca). Borrow an eBook through OverDrive, watch a movie on Kanopy and read a newspaper or magazine on PressReader. Virtual experiences include storytimes, puppet shows, concerts, author visits, workshops and book clubs.
- HPL Staff are available to print and laminate QR code enhanced vaccine verification receipts.

Several branches are also hosting vaccine clinics. See [hpl.ca/book-your-shot](https://hpl.ca/book-your-shot) for up-to-date locations, dates and times.

Please visit [hpl.ca](https://hpl.ca) for updates. We wish you a happy and safe 2022 and look forward to restoring service when we are able. Thank you for your patience.

Best Regards,

Paul Takala  
Chief Librarian/CEO

Nick van Velzen  
Library Board Chair