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**SUBJECT:** Vaccine Storage During Severe Weather  
**Date:** December 22, 2022  
**Pages:** 1  
**To:** Health Care Providers  
**From:** WDGPH Vaccine and Medication Administrators

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Environment Canada has issued a Special Weather Statement regarding wind gusts of 90 to 100 km/h creating widespread blowing snow and flash freezing for parts of Southern Ontario today (December 22) into Saturday (December 24). Because of the potential of power outages, please review your vaccine contingency plans and consider relocating your vaccine to a Public Health office. Vaccines would have to be dropped off by 3:00 p.m. today. You will need to make arrangements to pick up vaccine from Public Health on December 27, 2022, between 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

If relocating your vaccine to a Public Health office, follow appropriate cold chain protocols:

- Place the vaccine in a hard-sided cooler with appropriate packing material and digital thermometer monitoring devices.
- Conduct an inventory of vaccines while packing for your records.
- Clearly label your bags with your facility name and contact information.
- Number your bags and record the temperature before transporting vaccines.

It is the responsibility of Health Care Providers to maintain temperatures between +2°C and +8°C. If your facility cannot arrange to relocate vaccine to Public Health and a power outage impacts your fridge operations, you should place the vaccine in insulated containers with appropriate packing material and digital thermometer monitoring devices and record the temperature in 30-minute intervals without opening the container.

The following three (3) Public Health offices will accept vaccine:

- 490 Charles Allen Way, Suite 100, **Fergus**
- 160 Chancellors Way, **Guelph**
- 180 Broadway, **Orangeville**

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**For more information, refer to contact or website:**

**Name/Title:** Vaccine and Medication Administrator

**Contact:** 519-822-2715 or 1-800-265-7293 ext. 2622, or 4170

[www.wdgpublichealth.ca](http://www.wdgpublichealth.ca)