

May 27, 2021

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your support through the past year, as together we have navigated the COVID-19 pandemic. In the weeks ahead as more people get vaccinated and public health restrictions begin to ease, we are looking forward to a return of social activities and gatherings that have been put on pause until now.

The COVID-19 vaccine is now available to any individual born in 2009 or earlier. If you have not yet been immunized, please consider registering and booking your appointment as soon as possible. The more people in our school and community who are vaccinated, the better protected we are from the impacts of the pandemic.

## How to get your vaccine

Getting vaccinated is easy – all you need to do is register and then plan your appointment.

Registering takes about three minutes. Go online at <u>https://gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated</u>. You will need to enter your Personal Health Number (on the back of your <u>B.C. driver's licence, BC Services Card or CareCard</u>). If you'd rather register by phone, call **1-833-838-2323**.

Soon after you've registered, you'll receive a text message, email or phone call to book your appointment. Follow the link and choose a day, time and clinic location that works in your schedule.

**Families/members of the same household can get vaccinated together.** As long as one person in your household has booked a COVID-19 appointment, multiple members of the same household can attend that appointment together. For example, if a parent/guardian has confirmed an appointment date and time, any eligible youth can go at the same time – you don't need to make another appointment.

You will be able to choose the clinic location where you receive your vaccine when you schedule your appointment. Your vaccine appointment will last about 30 minutes total. It's quick and easy!

**Consent:** Under the <u>Infants Act</u>, youth are able to give consent to receive the vaccine. The immunizer will provide information and answer questions that anyone receiving the vaccine may have.

**Second dose:** The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is provided in two doses. Get your first as soon as possible now. You will be notified by text or email when it is time to schedule your second dose appointment.

If you have questions about COVID-19 vaccines, please visit the <u>HealthLink BC Website</u> or <u>B.C.'s Immunization</u> <u>Plan website</u>. It is your turn to make a difference. Join the fight against this challenging pandemic and register for your vaccine today.

Sincerely,

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Dr. Albert de Villiers Chief Medical Health Officer Interior Health