

## **News Release**

## For Immediate Release

## **COVID-19 vaccine boosters available across Nunavut**

**Nunavut (November 5, 2021)** – Nunavut's Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Michael Patterson, today announced that COVID-19 booster shots are now available to all Nunavummiut aged 12 and older, who received their second dose of their vaccine more than six months ago.

"The booster dose will help increase immunity to COVID-19, as recent evidence shows that vaccine effectiveness against COVID-19 decreases over time," said Dr. Patterson. "I encourage all Nunavummiut to get vaccinated. It is safe, effective and will help reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading in Nunavut."

Recent guidance from the Canadian National Advisory Committee on Immunizations recommends the COVID-19 vaccine booster dose to extend the vaccine's efficiency. The booster will help protect against serious illness or death, help curb the rate of transmission, and increase the protection against more infectious COVID-19 variants, such as the Delta variant.

Call your local health centre to book your appointment. In Iqaluit, boosters are available at Iqaluit Public Health. Appointments can be made by calling 867-975-4810 and are available Monday to Friday from 9:30 to 11:45 a.m.,1:15 - 4:30 p.m. and after hours from 5-7 p.m., as well as Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon, and 1- 4 p.m.

Masks continue to be mandatory across Nunavut and must be worn to vaccination appointments. First and second doses of the COVID-19 vaccines are still available to all Nunavummiut aged 12 and older. At this time, a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine is not required for proof of vaccination to travel.

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