

On March 1, the Government of BC and Ministry of Health announced the next steps in the Immunize BC COVID-19 immunization plans. Phase 2 of this plan is underway and will continue until April 12, 2021.

All of the information about the immunization strategy and the phased approach can be found on the BCCDC web:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/bcs-plan-for-vaccine-distribution>

Second Dose

The time between doses in the administration of the second dose of COVID-19 vaccine has been increased to 16 weeks after the first dose. Northern Health has delayed all Dose 2 immunizations accordingly. For more information:

http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID-19_vaccine/Public_health_statement_deferred_second_dose.pdf

Phase 2 Sequencing until April 12

In March, we will be completing Phase 1 immunizations, including immunizations for anyone in Phase 1 who was missed. In addition to Northern Health staff and medical staff, the vaccine will be offered to the Phase 2 groups that are listed at the link below:

<https://www.northernhealth.ca/health-topics/covid-19-vaccine-plan#weekly-plan#nh-resources>

Beginning March 8, 2021

Seniors aged 80+ born before 1941 and Indigenous people aged 65+ (First Nations, Métis, Inuit) born in or before 1956, who are not living in independent living or senior's supportive housing, can make one call to book their appointment through Northern Health's call centre. Immunization clinic locations will be confirmed at the time of booking, with vaccinations starting as early as March 15.

The days when you are eligible to call and book will be staggered by age working backwards – please check the NH community specific order. Information by community is available here:

<https://www.northernhealth.ca/health-topics/covid-19-vaccine-plan#weekly-plan#nh-resources>

***** The Northern Health Web will have the most current Northern Health information *****

The toll free phone number for Northern Health is 1-844-255-7555.

Notes

1. All direct care providers will have the opportunity to be immunized in Phases 1 and 2.
2. Eligible groups could be expanded based on direction from the provincial immunization program.
3. The immunization plan is dependent on vaccine delivery and may be amended.
4. Information regarding how the Astra Zeneca vaccine that has recently been approved in Canada will be used most strategically in British Columbia will be available within the next couple of weeks.
5. Information regarding how the Johnson & Johnson vaccine that has recently been approved in Canada will be used most strategically in British Columbia will be available within the next couple of weeks.
6. For Provincial Information: www.gov.bc.ca/bcseniorsfirst