

June 11, 2021

Dear parent/guardian/member of our school community:

Re: Youth and family COVID-19 vaccination clinics

Public Health Sudbury & Districts would like to thank everyone who booked an appointment at our upcoming COVID-19 vaccination clinics specially organized for youth aged 12 and up and their family members. Our goal is to provide all students with the opportunity to receive their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in June, followed by their second dose before the upcoming school year begins.

The vaccine is critical to protecting youth and our communities from COVID-19. In this letter, you will find important information on:

- How to prepare for your upcoming vaccination
- How to celebrate getting vaccinated
- What to do if you have not yet booked an appointment
- Information on second doses
- Links to additional vaccine resources

We appreciate your ongoing commitment and will continue to dedicate our efforts to the health and well-being of youth in all our school communities.

How to prepare for your appointment

- Bring your health card. If you do not have a health card or your health card is expired, don't worry, bring another form of government-issued photo identification such as a driver's license, passport, Status card, or birth certificate.
- Eat and drink something before you arrive at your appointment to prevent feeling faint or dizzy while being vaccinated.
- Wear a top that allows for easy access to the upper arm such as a loose-fitting top or a t-shirt.
- Wear a mask that covers your nose, mouth, and chin.
- If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should not attend the clinic.

Before going to your appointment, ensure you are comfortable answering the following screening questions:

### Sudbury

1300 rue Paris Street Sudbury ON P3E 3A3 t: 705.522.9200 f: 705.522.5182

### **Elm Place**

10 rue Elm Street Unit / Unité 130 Sudbury ON P3C 5N3 t: 705.522.9200 f: 705.677.9611

#### Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street Box / Boîte 58 St.-Charles ON POM 2W0 t: 705.222.9201 f: 705.867.0474

#### Espanola

800 rue Centre Street Unit / Unité 100 C Espanola ON P5E 1J3 t: 705.222.9202 f: 705.869.5583

#### Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542 Box / Boîte 87 Mindemoya ON POP 1S0 t: 705.370.9200 f: 705.377.5580

### Chapleau

34 rue Birch Street Box / Boîte 485 Chapleau ON POM 1K0 t: 705.860.9200 f: 705.864.0820

toll-free / sans frais 1.866.522.9200

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- 1. Do you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or feel sick today?
- 2. Do you have any allergies? If yes, have you ever experienced anaphylaxis?
- 3. Are you allergic to polyethylene glycol (PEG) or polysorbate?
- 4. Have you ever had an allergic reaction to a vaccine or a medication that was administered by injection?
- 5. Did you get any vaccines in the last 14 days?
- 6. Are you or could you be pregnant?
- 7. Are you breastfeeding?
- 8. Do you have any problems with your immune system? Are you taking any medications that can affect your immune system?
- 9. Do you have an autoimmune condition?
- 10. Do you have a bleeding disorder? Do you take any medications that can affect blood clotting?
- 11. Have you ever felt faint or fainted after a past vaccination or during a medical procedure?
- 12. Can you provide the name and telephone number of an emergency contact?

It is important to have an open and honest conversation about the answers to these questions with the person providing the vaccine. Learn more about <u>what youth need to know about</u> <u>their COVID-19 vaccine appointment</u> (Ministry of Health, PDF). Also, for trusted information for parents, caregivers and youth, visit the Kids Health First website at <u>kidshealthfirst.ca</u>.

## How to celebrate getting vaccinated

We'd love to hear from you. Share your experience!

## Snapchat filter

Share your experience by using our geotagged Snapchat filter to capture the moment. The filter will be accessible outside of the clinic venue so that you can mark the occasion (please respect the no photo rule inside the clinic venue). By sharing your experience, you may have a positive impact on others and increase awareness of the importance of the COVID-19 vaccine among youth.

## Share your motivation for vaccination

You can be a public health STAR! Join our Motivation for Vaccination campaign by taking a picture of yourself with our speech bubble (<u>English PDF</u>, <u>French PDF</u>) or a short video about why you are getting vaccinated or why getting vaccinated is important to you. Send us your photo or video at

motivation\_for\_vaccination@phsd.ca and share on your own social media platforms. Motivation for Vaccination is a social media campaign encouraging community members to share their reason for getting vaccinated. Your submission may be used on social media platforms and possibly other communication mediums to promote vaccination and have a positive influence at the individual and community level. For more details, visit phsd.ca. With your help we can encourage our community to get vaccinated!

# What to do if you have not booked an appointment

If you did not complete the online registration or have not yet booked your appointment at a youth and family-focused mass vaccination clinic, you can:

- 1. Walk in at one of the school-based vaccination clinic blocks. Dates and times are available at <u>phsd.ca/covid-19/vaccine-clinics</u>.
  - a. If you have transportation needs, please contact the Sudbury Student Services Consortium at 705.521.1234
- 2. Call 705.674.2299 (toll-free 1.800.708.2505), between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., seven days a week for an appointment at a youth and family-focused mass vaccination clinic. These are appointment only at this time.

For youth identified as exceptional and/or require accommodation(s): Youth and caregivers must call the local booking call centre at 705.674.2299 (toll-free 1.800.708.2505), between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., seven days a week to speak with a representative about what clinic type would best meet required needs.

# Information on second doses

Youth and families who receive their first dose at a school-based vaccination clinic block at a mass immunization clinic will be able to book their second dose online at <u>covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine</u>. Online booking is a simple and efficient process and helps reduce call volumes. You can also call 705.674.2299 (toll-free 1.800.708.2505).

Public Health Sudbury & Districts is continually adding clinics and appointment opportunities. As the Province of Ontario continues to announce more individuals become eligible for shortened second dose intervals, please check phsd.ca for updates about eligibility and check the online booking system often for more opportunities to book a second dose.

# Vaccine resources:

Factsheet for parents and youth on the COVID-19 vaccine (Public Health Sudbury & Districts, PDF)Frequently asked question about the COVID-19 vaccines (Public Health Sudbury & Districts website)COVID-19 vaccine information sheet: for youth age 12-17 (Ontario Ministry of Health, PDF, 280KB)What youth need to know about their appointment (Ontario Ministry of Health, PDF, 100KB)COVID-19 Vaccine Quick Facts Videos (video series with Public Health Nurse Natalie who answers many questions on the COVID-19 vaccine)COVID-19 How vaccines are developed (Health Canada) [ENG & FR]How do vaccines work? (Science North, English only)