

## **NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release: July 14, 2021

## **COVID-19 Vaccine Appointments Booked on or After August 3 Have Been Cancelled**

NIPISSING & PARRY SOUND, ON – The province has shortened the time between first and second doses for both adults and youth. Therefore, anyone who received their first COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days ago is now eligible for their second dose. To support individuals to access their second dose sooner, the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (Health Unit) has cancelled all COVID-19 vaccine bookings on or after August 3 and is providing opportunity to book a new second dose appointment now.

Those who are a part of the second dose cancellations on or after August 3 can re-book their appointment for one of the many vaccine clinics scheduled between now and August 2, 2021, or attend a clinic accepting walkins.

Confirmation of the cancelled appointment will be sent to the email address used to book the first appointment. Individuals can rebook their second appointment at **Ontario.ca/BookVaccine** or call the provincial booking line at 1-833-943-3900.

The cancelled appointments had been booked for individuals at the original 16-week interval for adults and 56-day interval for youth. Second dose appointments booked before August 3 are not affected and will not be cancelled.

"There are people who are waiting the 16-weeks between their first and second appointment but it is important that people get fully vaccinated as soon as possible," explains Andrea McLellan, Director of COVID-19 Immunization Strategy. "We have a number of open appointments in the next two weeks and will continue to offer clinics based on demand and COVID-19 vaccine supply."

Anyone who wishes to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, but is not able to access a vaccine clinic, can contact the Health Unit's COVID-19 Call Centre at 1-844-478-1400 to discuss alternate options.

For more information on the COVID-19 vaccine please visit myhealthunit.ca/COVID-19Vaccine.

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