

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release: March 18, 2021

Mass Immunization Clinics for Individuals Born in or Before 1941 Start Monday

NIPISSING & PARRY SOUND, ON – The North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (Health Unit) with support of community partners are starting to vaccinate individuals born in or before 1941 as of 9 a.m. on March 22, 2021. Individuals who are eligible are able to book their COVID-19 vaccine appointment online through the provincial booking system or over the phone at 1-800-563-2808, option 5. Walk-ins will not be accepted at the vaccination clinics. Individuals with appointments are reminded to come at your appointment time.

“On Monday, we take an important step forward to protect our most vulnerable, as our first mass immunization clinics goes live,” says Dr. Jim Chirico, Medical Officer of Health. “We are thankful for the support and collaboration of our municipal partners and our local hospitals who have stepped up and are assisting with clinics to help ensure we are able to get the vaccine in arms as quickly as possible. We have also had a fantastic response for volunteers. At this time, we no longer need additional volunteers.”

The Health Unit with support of community partners have completed vaccinations in long-term care homes.

The immediate priorities for vaccine rollout are advancing steadily, including:

- Alternate level of care patients in hospitals who have a confirmed admission to a long-term care home, retirement home or other congregate care home for seniors.
- Highest Priority health care workers, followed by Very High Priority health care workers, in accordance with the [Ministry of Health’s guidance on Health Care Worker Prioritization](#).
- Indigenous adults in northern remote and higher risk communities (including individuals who live in a First Nations community and urban communities).

As higher volumes of COVID-19 vaccine shipments become available in the region, the Health Unit will move to remaining Phase 1 populations, including:

- Staff, residents and caregivers in retirement homes and other congregate care settings for seniors (e.g., assisted living).
- Health care workers in the High Priority level, and in accordance with the Ministry of Health’s guidance on Health Care Worker Prioritization.
- All Indigenous adults.

- Adult recipients of chronic home care.

The Health Unit's [Vaccine Strategy Playbook](#) continues to serve as a basis to guide the local rollout of COVID-19 vaccinations.

For more information on local COVID-19 vaccine status visit www.myhealthunit.ca/COVID-19Vaccine.

For questions about the vaccine or the clinics visit our [FAQ page](#) or call the Health Unit at 1-800-563-2808, option 5 and follow the prompt for general inquiries.

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