

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release: April 27, 2021

Only One Appointment Per Dose, Reminds Health Unit

NIPISSING & PARRY SOUND, ON – With the COVID-19 vaccine rollout taking place throughout Ontario, individuals who are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine are asked to avoid booking multiple appointments in effort to receive a preferred brand or earlier dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Individuals who choose to book a new immunization appointment should cancel prior booked appointments so the timeslot can be used to vaccinate someone else.

“We know with great certainty that all COVID-19 vaccines approved by Health Canada are very safe and very effective,” says Andrea McLellan, Director of COVID-19 Immunization Strategy at the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (Health Unit). “When each person has only one appointment confirmed per dose, we are able to vaccinate more people in a timely manner. This helps us to control the spread of the virus in our district.”

Individuals who book two or more appointments for their second dose will create an error in the provincial booking system that may result in all their appointments being cancelled. These individuals must then contact the Health Unit to reschedule. The Health Unit is also reminding individuals who have been partially or fully immunized to continue following public health measures, as protection through immunization is not 100% and there continues to be a real local risk of transmission if these measures are not followed.

The Health Unit has approximately 2,000 COVID-19 vaccine appointments available for scheduled clinics this week and is currently booking appointments for individuals born in 1961 or before, as well as Special Education Workers, Individuals with Highest Risk Health Conditions (outlined by the Ministry of Health) and their essential caregiver, pregnant individuals and those who live in High-Risk Congregate Settings. The Health Unit will announce when more priority groups become eligible.

For more information, visit www.myhealthunit.ca/COVID-19Vaccine.

-30-

Media Inquiries:

Catherine Levac-Lafond, Bilingual Media Relations Coordinator

P: [705-474-1400](tel:705-474-1400), ext. 5221 or [1-800-563-2808](tel:1-800-563-2808)

E: communications@healthunit.ca