

## **NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release: May 23, 2021

## Youth 12 to 17 Now Eligible to Book COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment

NIPISSING & PARRY SOUND, ON – Youth ages 12 to 17 are now eligible to book a COVID-19 vaccine appointment through the Ontario online booking system or by calling the provincial booking line at 1-833-943-3900. The North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit will be offering youth and family focused first dose Pfizer clinics during the weeks of June 14 and 21. Youth can book into these clinics starting May 31. The youth focused clinics align with the provincial plan to have Ontario youth vaccinated. In addition to the youth focused clinics, the Health Unit will be offering specific smaller clinics to support youth with special needs. More information on these clinics will be forthcoming.

"It is great news that we are able to start vaccinating youth. Every youth in Ontario has had significant impacts from the pandemic. Getting vaccinated is a way for them to take control and get one step closer to a normal school year," explains Dr. Carol Zimbalatti, Public Health Physician.

Youth do not need to attend a clinic with a parent or guardian, as parental consent is **not** required to receive a vaccine, provided the healthcare provider administrating the vaccine deems the youth capable of understanding the decision to be vaccinated. Parents or guardians are welcome to attend a clinic with the youth as support for them.

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

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Call Toll Free: 1-800-563-2808

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