

March 8, 2021

## **PUBLIC ADVISORY**

## COVID-19 immunizations - Changes to Second Dose Schedule

Labrador-Grenfell Health is advising the public that all appointments for second dose of the COVID-19 Vaccine will be rescheduled.

On March 3, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador announced a revised second dose vaccine schedule for all vaccines currently approved for use in Canada. This revised schedule is based on a recommendation from the National Advisory Committee on Immunizations (NACI) which recommends that in the context of limited COVID-19 vaccine supply, jurisdictions should maximize the number of individuals benefiting from the first dose of vaccine by extending the interval for the second dose of vaccine to four months.

To align with NACI's updated recommendations, all second dose appointments that are currently booked across the Labrador-Grenfell Health region have been canceled and will be rescheduled. Individuals will be contacted with a new appointment date by Public Health.

To learn more about NACI's recommendations, please read their online document <u>Rapid Response</u>: <u>Extended dose intervals for COVID-19 vaccines to optimize early vaccine rollout and population protection in Canada</u>.

Until the majority of the population have received their vaccination against COVID-19, it is important for everyone to continue to follow public health guidance to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your communities.

## This includes:

- Wearing a mask and keeping 2 metres distance;
- Respecting public health guidance on gatherings, travel and quarantine.
- Staying home and calling 8-11 if you feel sick;

Washing your hands frequently;

Labrador-Grenfell Health will continue to communicate as additional vaccine information becomes available. Please check our website at <a href="https://www.lghealth.ca/vaccine">www.lghealth.ca/vaccine</a> to stay up-to-date.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccines, please visit <u>Health Canada</u>. For up-to-date information around the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit <u>www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19</u>.

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