



Renfrew County and District Health Unit
"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, 2:20 p.m., September 12, 2022)

RCDHU Plans for Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Rollout and Urges Residents to be Patient

Starting today, Renfrew County and District residents 18 years of age or older will be able to book bivalent COVID-19 vaccine booster appointments at local clinics. **Please note that the bivalent COVID-19 vaccine booster will not be offered to residents attending clinics this week (September 12-16).**

The following groups will be able to **start booking bivalent COVID-19 vaccine booster appointments today and will be able to attend clinics starting the week of September 19th:**

- individuals aged 70 and over;
- residents of long-term care homes, retirement homes, Elder Care Lodges and individuals living in other congregate settings that provide assisted-living and health services;
- First Nation, Inuit and Métis individuals and their non-Indigenous household members aged 18 and over;
- moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals aged 12 and over;
- pregnant individuals aged 18 and over; and
- health care workers aged 18 and over.

Residents 18 years of age and older will also be able to start booking bivalent COVID-19 vaccine booster appointments today and will be able to attend clinics starting the week of September 26th.

Those looking to book an appointment [can do so online](#) via the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre or by calling **1-833-943-3900**.

Starting September 19th, the previously mentioned groups can contact [participating pharmacies](#) about receiving the new bivalent COVID-19 vaccine booster. Residents 18 years of age and older can contact [participating pharmacies](#) about bivalent COVID-19 vaccine booster availability starting September 26th. It is recommended that you call the pharmacy ahead of time as vaccine supply varies and appointments may be required.

Anyone who recently experienced a COVID-19 infection should wait 90 days following their symptom onset date or the date that they tested positive for COVID-19, before receiving their bivalent COVID-19 vaccine booster (and only if six months has already passed since receiving their previous dose).

Even if you have been vaccinated, it is important to continue following public health measures to keep the community safe; stay home if you are sick, avoid contact with people who are ill, practice physical distancing (2 metres), wear a mask/face covering when physical distancing cannot be maintained, wash your hands, and complete the [COVID-19 self-assessment tool](#) or [COVID-19 school and child care self-assessment tool](#) **daily** before going to work, school or daycare, to monitor for symptoms and proper guidance.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccination, visit <https://www.rcdhu.com/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccine-rollout/>.

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