

# Thousands respond to call to book this weekend; appointments available for eligible staff and physicians

Please print and share with your teams as needed

## Dear staff, physicians and volunteers,

Thank you to all healthcare workers who have signed up to be immunized for COVID-19 this weekend. Appointments remain available in all zones. If you are eligible and have received an email to book your appointment, please take this opportunity to be immunized as soon as possible. This will allow us to provide immunization to additional phases/groups of staff and physicians in the days to come.

Additional appointments have been loaded into the online appointment booking tool and will continue to be added based on vaccine supply. Staff eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine will receive an email directly from AHS with a unique link. Please check your email for your appointment booking invitation from **AHS Booking** and click your one-time link as soon as possible and book your appointment this weekend. Please visit <a href="mailto:ahs.ca/covidvaccine">ahs.ca/covidvaccine</a> for a reminder on who is currently eligible for COVID-19 immunization.

The online booking tool last night had a performance issue for those trying to modify appointments. If you were trying to book last night and couldn't, the online booking tool is now functioning once again and is available to modify your appointment if you are available to be immunized this weekend.

We received reports of some staff inadvertently cancelling their appointment in an attempt to rebook rather than modify their appointment. If "cancel' is selected, you are no longer able to rebook your immunization. For this reason, please be sure to select 'edit' next to your appointment details so you can choose a different time and location for your immunization. For those who cancelled their appointments, please call Health Link to rebook.

When editing an appointment, you may also be unable to select a new time at your original location. This means that the availability at your location is full. Please select another nearby location that has open appointments.

We want to thank the IT team, Health Link and our public health teams for working so hard Thursday to accommodate rapid bookings.

Vaccine arrival dates and quantities in Alberta has proven to be uncertain. Therefore, we encourage you to book your appointment as soon as possible when you become eligible to ensure you get immunized with doses that are currently available. Because of this uncertainty, we have also changed the immunization appointment booking window from three weeks to five days. This means that once you log on to book your immunization, you can choose your immunization appointment to take place within five days. This window will be expanded once current appointments are fully booked.

# If you believe you are an eligible healthcare worker but have not yet been contacted to book your COVID-19 immunization appointment

We know everyone is anxiously awaiting their turn for immunization and we thank you for your patience. We are doing all we can to roll out vaccine as supply is available.

Staff eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine will receive an email directly from AHS with a unique link. Visit the FAQ page if you have questions about this process.

Lists of individuals in each eligible group as identified by Alberta Health were provided proactively for email booking invitations, which are being sent out in batches. Some may receive these emails before others. Please allow time for these emails to be sent, as it takes time for everyone's information to get loaded into the system and the emails to be sent.

If you feel you have been missed in your phase, please reach out to your supervisor or medical leader. Do not call Health Link. Physicians, please contact <a href="mailto:cmo@ahs.ca">cmo@ahs.ca</a>.

We are extremely grateful for the patience of all staff, physicians and Albertans who are waiting to be immunized.

Sincerely,

### Dr. Verna Yiu

AHS President & CEO

# Dr. Laura McDougall

Senior Medical Officer of Health





