

April 5, 2019

Dear Parents, Guardians or Representatives, of Home Schooled Children,

RE: BC Government's Measles Immunization Catch-Up Program for School-Aged Children (K-12) from April to June 2019

As you may have heard, the BC Government has announced an initiative to catch up all school-age children (K-12) with measles vaccines. This is an opportunity for unimmunized and under-immunized children to catch-up on their measles vaccinations. At this time, there is no measles outbreak within our Northern Health region; however, we are working with the province, our health-care partners and school districts to increase immunity amongst B.C.'s school-age children.

Most people in Canada are protected against measles infection through immunizations. Two doses of either measles, mumps and rubella vaccine (MMR) or measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella vaccine (MMRV) is 99 per cent effective at preventing measles. Further booster doses are unnecessary and do not increase immunity. Children typically receive one dose of MMR at 12 months of age followed by one dose of MMRV starting at four years of age. For more information on measles and measles containing vaccine, please visit: Health Link BC - Measles at <https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/health-feature/measles>

If you believe your child or children may be unimmunized or under immunized with respect to MMR or MMRV vaccine based on their immunization records, please contact your local health unit listed below to book an appointment.

Thank you for your attention to this information. We look forward to working together to ensure the measles immunization catch-up program for school-age children is successful.

Sincerely,



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Northeast Health Units

Fort St John.....250-263-6000
 Chetwynd.....250-788-7300

Dawson Creek.....250-719-6500
 Hudson's Hope.....250-783-9991

Fort Nelson..... 250-774-7092
 Tumbler Ridge...250-242-5271

Northwest Health Units

Houston.....250-845-2294
 Atlin Health Centre 250-651-7677
 Hazelton.....250-842-4640
 Smithers.....250-847-6400

Dease Lake.....250-771-4444
 Kitimat.....250-632-3181
 Masset.....250-626-4725
 Stewart.....250-636-2221

Prince Rupert.....250-622-6380
 Queen Charlotte..250-559-4933
 Sandspit.....250-637-5403
 Terrace.....250-631-4200

Northern Interior Health Units

Mackenzie.....250-997-8517
 Quesnel.....250-991-7571
 Burns Lake.....250-692-2460

Fort St. James.....250-996-7178
 McBride.....250-569-2251 ext 2026
 Valemount..250-566-9138 ext 2000

Fraser Lake.....250-699-8960
 Prince George.....250-565-7478
 Vanderhoof.....250-567-6900