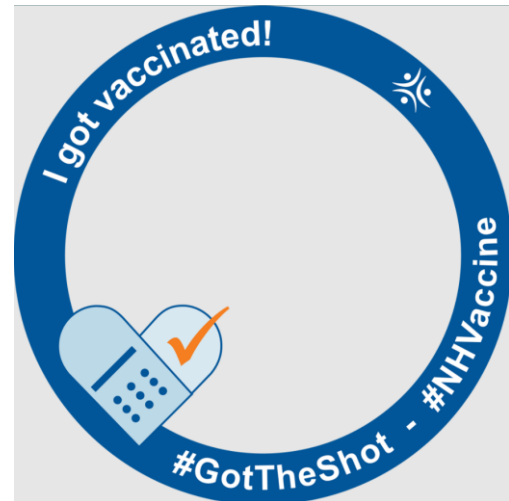


Healthier Northern Communities E-Brief

August 2021

Vaccine2You Mobile COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic

Northern Health's COVID-19 vaccine clinics have gone mobile, and they could show up in your area of the North! The Vaccine2You Mobile COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic is offering drop-in first and second doses for anyone 12 and up, no appointment necessary. There are two clinics travelling across the region to smaller, remote locations to make it easier and more convenient to get the shot today. Vaccine2You is a partnership with Pacific Destinations Services, the Canadian Red Cross, and Northern Health. A mobile clinic called the Vax



Van is available in various locations around the Northeast. For van locations, check the [Northern Health clinic webpage](#) or your local NH community Facebook group. Companies, crews, or groups wishing to arrange vaccinations with the Vax Van can call 250-262-5204.

For Your Information

Be a COVID-19 #VaxChamp – First Nations Health Authority

Join other Indigenous people in being a #VaxChamp. [Visit the website](#) to learn about why others got vaccinated, and tell us why you're getting immunized against COVID-19! For information about COVID-19, including public health guidelines, vaccines, and resources visit [FNHA COVID-19 webpage](#). The FNHA has also produced a [series of resources](#) to help support your mental health and wellness during this difficult time. Read our COVID-19 vaccine [FAQs here](#). Download our [VaxChamp posters here](#) and spread the word in your community!

Northern Health COVID-19 immunization clinics

The current immunization schedule developed for the northern BC, in partnership with the First Nations Health Authority, Métis Nation BC, and Northern Health, is focused on phases one and two priority groups of BC's immunization plan (developed based on recommendations from the [National Advisory Committee on Immunization](#)), and on protecting those most vulnerable to severe illness, first. For more information on the vaccine and priority groups, visit the [Government of BC website](#) and the [First Nations Health Authority website](#). For specific NH COVID vaccination locations and schedules visit the [COVID-19 immunization clinics](#) page.

Resources (toolkits, reports, websites)

Northern Health COVID-19 Community Toolkit

To empower local partners to share helpful information, Northern Health has created the [COVID-19 Community Toolkit](#). A digital resource for community partners, the toolkit contains: links to factual sources of information about COVID-19 and vaccination; digital images suitable for sharing on the web through social media and by email; and printable posters and infographics. Help spread the word about the benefits of the COVID-19 vaccine and support your audience to get vaccinated by downloading and sharing these resources through your internal communications channels. If you have any questions about the toolkit, or suggestions for other materials that would support your organization in spreading the word, please email healthpromotions@northernhealth.ca.

Sun Safety: Caring for Kids with adaptations from BC Cancer Society

Protecting children from getting too much sun is important, whether they are playing outside or are with you on an errand. Too much sun exposure can be dangerous for children. A child can sunburn easily, even on a cloudy day. Bad sunburns and too much time spent in the sun without skin protection have been linked to a higher risk of skin cancer later in life. During the summer months, children can easily lose body fluid and become dehydrated; they don't necessarily feel thirsty while at play. To learn more about protecting children from the sun, visit the [Caring for Kids webpage](#).

Build Back Better: Wellbeing Budgets for a post COVID-19

Population wellbeing has long been a concern of governments. In recent years, momentum has been building for governments to consider wellbeing as a measure of success and progress alongside traditional economic measures. The [Build Back Better Fact Sheet](#) presents a look at how wellbeing has developed as a policy focus for central governments and how these policies can coincide with public health priorities.

Toolkit: Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Futures 2021 dental kit

Colgate has created a dental program toolkit for educators and dental professionals, which is full of easy-to-use classroom materials, toothpaste, and toothbrush sample for students in grades 1-2. These materials will support kids to learn healthy oral care habits. [Apply here](#) to receive your program kit.

Events and Learning Opportunities

Homelessness Services Association of BC (HSABC): Seniors

Date: August 12 2021

HSABC, with [Seniors Services Society of BC](#), [Whole Way House Society](#), [West End Seniors Network](#), [United Way of the Lower Mainland](#), the [Aging in the Right Place \(AIRP\) Project](#) is presenting the Learn + Connect Series on Homelessness event focusing on Seniors on Thursday Aug. 12, 9:15 AM - 4:15 PM PST. This virtual, full day learning event for service providers brings together people with lived expertise and subject matter experts to build an understanding of policies and practices with an intersectional perspective, including: Different Needs = Different Solutions, Nowhere to go: Rural Seniors Homelessness, Best Practices from Cross-Canada service providers, and other critical topics. To register, visit the [HSABC webpage](#).

Working with FireSmart BC Tools and Resources
Date: August 26 2021

FireSmart BC is hosting a free informative and interactive 45-minute webinar that will provide local governments, First Nations, neighbourhood champions, fire departments, Community FireSmart and Resiliency Committee members, and Local FireSmart Representatives (LFRs) with the tools and know-how to work with a wide variety of FireSmart BC tools and resources. To learn more visit the [FireSmart BC webpage](#) or [register online](#).

Funding Opportunities

Local Food Infrastructure Fund
Deadline: August 13 2021

The [Local Food Infrastructure Fund](#) application intake is now open. The new application intake will provide rapid-response grants valued between \$15,000 and \$100,000 to help prevent hunger through investments in infrastructure needs. Project impacts must be targeted, immediate, and directly related to addressing food insecurity and increasing the accessibility of healthy, nutritious, and ideally local foods within the community. The Fund supports community-led projects that strengthen food systems and help to facilitate access to safe and nutritious food for at-risk Canadians. For more information visit [Agriculture Canada website](#).

National Housing Strategy Demonstrations Initiative
Deadline: August 27 2021

The National Housing Strategy (NHS) Demonstrations Initiative funds the demonstration, in a real environment, of solutions supporting housing affordability, the National Housing Strategy priority areas, population groups and outcomes. The 2021 call for applications will focus on projects aiming to demonstrate community land trust

and land assembly solutions for affordable housing. For more information, and to apply, visit the [NHS webpage](#).

BC Indigenous Agriculture Development Program

Deadline: Ongoing

BC Indigenous Agriculture Development Program is offering three types of financial support for Indigenous governments, communities, organizations, and entrepreneurs. The first is up to \$5,000 to complete a feasibility assessment of agricultural development options, food security planning, and/or business planning functions related to agriculture and food production, processing and other associated activities. The second provides up to \$10,000 for financial analysis, specialized business planning and skills development related to agriculture and food production, processing and other associated activities. The third is a community engagement top-up fund; during each step of the program, you are also eligible for up to \$2,000 of additional funding to support community engagement during your project. For more information [visit the Government of BC website](#).

Disaster Financial Assistance

Deadline: variable

Following a disaster, the provincial government may declare the event eligible for [Disaster Financial Assistance \(DFA\)](#). Once declared, the DFA program may compensate individuals for essential uninsurable losses and/or reimburse local governments for damaged infrastructure. For more information and to apply, visit the [Forms & Information page](#).

TELUS Friendly Future Foundation Grants

Deadline: variable in September

The TELUS Friendly Future Foundation is an independent registered charity dedicated to funding health, education, and technology focused charitable programs for at-risk youth in communities across Canada. Registered Canadian charities in a TELUS Community Board region are invited to apply for single-year funding of up to \$20 000 supporting local education, health, or technology programs. To learn more or to apply, visit the [TELUS Community Grant webpage](#).

Northern Health Stories

Dawson Creek community member Claudette Huber shares why she got the job

“I got my vaccine because it’s for the greater good of everybody. I believe in hope and I think it’s the socially responsible thing to do. As Canadian Sioux artist Maxine Noel says, ‘Only in unity will there be hope for the future.’”

Fort St John library technician shares why she got her vaccine

When I got vaccinated, I talked to my son about how getting vaccinated is one way of being socially responsible. Just like we wear our seatbelts to protect ourselves and we shovel our sidewalks so our neighbors don’t slip, we get vaccinated to protect our own health and to keep our families and communities safe... [continue reading](#)

Northern Health case and contact management: Then, now, and looking forward

With the recent shift into Step 3 of BC’s Restart plan, the end of the tunnel feels near. For the Northern Health team who carried out case and contact management (CCM), a core function of public health during the pandemic, it’s been a whirlwind 18 months. The team faced incredible challenges yet accomplished so much as a small but mighty team... [continue reading](#)

See the latest stories at stories.northernhealth.ca.

E-Brief Information

The Healthier Northern Communities [E-Brief](#) is produced by [Northern Health’s regional Population and Preventive Public Health program](#).

- **To subscribe**, send a blank email to healthycommunities@northernhealth.ca with “subscribe” in the subject line.
- **To unsubscribe**, send a blank email to healthycommunities@northernhealth.ca with “unsubscribe” in the subject line.

To share information, articles or resources of interest to northern BC communities, send an email to healthycommunities@northernhealth.ca.

If you have any questions about our list and your privacy, please phone 250-645-6568.