

ISC - Alberta Region COVID-19 Update for Chiefs: *April 8th, 2021*



Updates

Province Returns to Step 1 COVID-19 Restrictions:

Beginning on Wednesday, April 7th, mandatory health measures go into effect for retail, fitness and performance activities:

- Retail services must reduce customer capacity to 15 per cent of fire code occupancy, with a minimum of five customers permitted. Curbside pickup, delivery and online services are encouraged. Also, shopping malls will be limited to 15 per cent of fire code occupancy.
- Only one-on-one training with an individual or household is permitted for indoor fitness activities (e.g., fitness in dance studios, training figure skating on ice, one-on-one lessons). No drop-in activities or unsupervised individual fitness. Group fitness, high or low intensity, is not allowed. Outdoor physical activity is allowed with up to 10 people, provided physical distancing is maintained between households.
- Adult performance activities are not permitted. Performance activities include dancing, singing, acting, playing a musical instrument and any rehearsal or theatrical performances.

Effective at noon on Friday, April 9, restaurants will be restricted to providing only takeout, delivery and patio service. Household members only, or two close contacts of someone who lives alone and contact information must be collected from one person of the dining party. Restrictions on places of worship, social gatherings, personal and wellness services, indoor and outdoor children's sport and performance remain in effect unchanged. Full details [here](#).

Vaccine Community Innovation Challenge:

The Government of Canada's "Vaccine Community Innovation Challenge" encourages individuals and/or groups across Canada to help promote vaccine confidence in their communities. Twenty finalists will be given \$25,000 to develop their ideas and launch their campaigns. A grand prize of \$100,000 will be awarded to one winner at the end of the challenge period. The deadline to submit a proposal is **April 9, 2021**. More information can be found [here](#).

Question of the Day

Q: How can we ensure that our hand sanitizer is safe?

A: Certain hand sanitizers are being recalled because they do not meet Health Canada's requirements and may pose health risks. Health Canada recalled both Gigi's Goodbye Germs Hand Sanitizer and Preference Pre-Quat Sanitizer because they are not authorized for sale in Canada and/or have not met testing requirements.

If you have these or other recalled hand sanitizers, stop using them immediately and return them to your local pharmacy or follow your region's guidelines on how to safely dispose hazardous waste and chemicals. More info available [here](#).

National Info

[Government of Canada actions to reduce anti-Indigenous racism in healthcare systems](#)

[Epidemiological summary of COVID-19 cases in First Nations communities](#)

[Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Measures to reduce COVID-19 in your community](#)

Alberta Cases:

as of April 7th, 3:30 p.m. MST

AB Total Confirmed (Apr.6th – 1,351 new cases)	155,476
AB Recovered Cases	142,010
Confirmed First Nations On-reserve Cases	7,286
On-reserve Recovered Cases	6,998
On-Reserve Active Cases	213
Calgary Zone Confirmed	60,823
Central Zone Confirmed	12,133
Edmonton Zone Confirmed	58,731
North Zone Confirmed	14,997
South Zone Confirmed	8,576
Unknown Confirmed	216
Deaths due to COVID-19	2,002
On-reserve Deaths due to COVID-19	75
Variants of Concern Confirmed in Alberta	7,561

Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Quality Improvement Projects

Employment and Social Development Canada has extended the application period to **April 14** at 12 pm, Mountain Time. This funds Indigenous communities, governments and organizations that are exploring ways to improve Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (IELCC) up to \$750,000, projects can last up to 19 months, and can not extend past March 31, 2023. Full details on eligibility and applying available [here](#).

Regional Snapshot



More Alberta case data can be found [here](#)

Useful Links

COVID-19 Telehealth April 15th:

Thursday April 15 from 1:30 – 3 pm.

- via Zoom, go to <https://fntn.zoom.us/join> and enter Meeting ID: 938 3251 0997 and Passcode: 224892
- from an audio line, dial 1-587-328-1099 and enter Meeting ID: 938 3251 0997 and Passcode: 224892
- from a videoconference-enabled room, go to www.fntn.ca to register Questions can be submitted in advance of or during the presentation to VChelp@FNTN.ca, or via Zoom during the presentation. This session will be recorded and posted to www.fntn.ca.

Topics to include updates on variants, vaccines, pandemic planning.

Facebook Live Recording of Your COVID-19 Vaccine Questions Answered:

The recording of the Facebook Live event with Dr. Adams, Dr. Tam, Dr. Sharma and Dr. Njoo can be found [here](#). Please feel free to share widely.

Vaccine Update



Updates Regrading Phase 2B:

Starting April 7, anyone born in 2005 or earlier with eligible [underlying health conditions](#) can book appointments for the COVID-19 vaccine at participating pharmacies or with Alberta Health Services (AHS) online or by calling 811. By expanding to those born in 2005 or before, 500,000 more Albertans will be eligible. AHS has made enhancements to the [online booking tool](#) to allow up to three additional family members who are eligible to receive their vaccine to book at the same time and at the same clinic. Also, as a reminder, eligible Albertans can also book their COVID-19 immunization at [participating pharmacies](#). Bookings for rapid flow clinics in Grand Prairie, Fort McMurray, Red Deer, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat will open on Friday, April 9. More clinics will open in Edmonton and Calgary next week. Bookings can be made with Alberta Health Services (AHS) online or by calling 811. Alberta will soon expand its vaccine rollout at participating pharmacies to allow walk-in bookings, rather than those by appointment only. Additional information will be shared when pharmacy walk-ins become available next week.

Recommendation on Extended Dose Intervals:

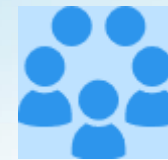
NACI recommends extending the time between the first and second dose of COVID-19 vaccines up to four months while vaccine supply is limited. Second doses should be offered as soon as possible after all eligible populations have been offered first doses, with priority given to those at highest risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19. With Canada's expected vaccine supply, the interval between the first and second dose is expected to be less than four months. Jurisdictions may choose to shorten the time between the first and second dose in specific populations based on local rates of cases and what is known about where transmission is happening, local vaccine supply, their local methods of delivering vaccine and emerging evidence. Observational studies after the first dose show vaccine effectiveness generally between 60 to 80% (with some lower and higher estimates) against infection. Most importantly, these studies show one dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech and AstraZeneca vaccines are approximately 80% effective against hospitalization. A study also indicated that the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is approximately 85% effective against death due to COVID19 (data is not yet available for the AstraZeneca vaccine). Full details [here](#).

Vaccine Snapshot

*as of April 6th



20,324 doses of vaccine have been administered in **46** Nations (bands) in Alberta.



At least **13,505** First Nations people have receive their first dose.



At least **3,283** First Nations people aged 65 years and older living in reserve or crown land have received their first dose.



At least **2,750** First Nations people aged 65 years and older have received two doses of the vaccine.



At least **6,819** First Nations people have received two doses of the vaccine.