

ISC - Alberta Region COVID-19

Update for Chiefs: *October 27th, 2021*



IMPORTANT DATES - Full vaccination required for Restrictions Exemption Program

Starting October 25, Albertans aged 12 and older need to provide proof of two COVID-19 vaccine doses to access many restaurants, movies, sporting events and other businesses province-wide. This means anyone accessing a business, venue and service participating in the Restrictions Exemption Program will need to provide government-issued proof of having received two doses of COVID-19 vaccine at least 14 days earlier. One of the following options must be provided:

- Government-issued proof of a complete vaccine series (with the second dose received two weeks or more before the time of service).
 - Valid identification that matches the vaccine record is required for adults 18 years and over.
 - First Nation, out-of-province and Canadian Armed Forces vaccine records are accepted proofs of vaccination, as is the ArriveCan app and valid international travel identity document.
- A negative privately paid COVID-19 test from within the previous 72 hours.
- Valid proof of medical exemption

Starting November 15th, Albertans will be required to show their vaccine record with QR code for proof of vaccination at all businesses participating in the Restrictions Exemption Program. The records can be quickly and easily confirmed through the AB COVID Records Verifier app. Proof of personal identification will still be required. Albertans can get their enhanced vaccine record with a QR code online at alberta.ca/CovidRecords without creating an account. Anyone can also request a printed proof of vaccination with a QR code from a local registry agent office or by calling 811, at no cost. Vaccine records from First Nations, military, other provinces, and international travelers will continue to be accepted as proof of vaccination.

NOTE: Individuals who were partially or fully vaccinated outside of Alberta, are advised to update their health records by submitting their out-of-province/country immunization records online at ahs.ca/vaccineregistry. Submitted records will be reviewed by AHS and verified information will be available on alberta.ca/CovidRecords and the individual's MyHealth Records account after about 2 weeks.

Halloween During COVID-19

We can celebrate the spookiest time of year without the fear of spreading COVID-19. The Government of Alberta has published a **Non-Tricky Tips for a Spooky Safe Halloween – Tip Sheet**

There are ways for kids to enjoy their favourite Halloween activities safely such as trick-or-treating by taking some simple precautions:

- Don't go trick-or-treating if feeling ill, even if symptoms are minor
- Choose costumes that allow a non-medical mask to be worn underneath -make sure you can see and breathe comfortably
- Minimize contact with others: trick-or-treat with your family or cohort, remain within your community, and stay 2 metres apart
- Avoid touching doorbells or railings: call "trick or treat" from 2 metres away, knock instead of using doorbells, use hand sanitizer after touching surfaces
- Wash hands and disinfect packages before eating candy



Halloween Posters:

Welcome Trick-or-Treaters – [poster](#)
Sorry, No Candy Here – [poster](#)

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NEW COVID BENEFITS ANNOUNCED

On October 21st, the Government of Canada proposed changes to business support programs, such as extending the Canada Recovery Hiring Program until May 7, 2022 for eligible employers and delivering targeted support to businesses that are still facing significant pandemic related challenges via the Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program and the Hardest-Hit Business Recovery Program. Workers will also have access to support through the extension of the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit and the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit, as well as the creation of the Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit. Click [here](#) to learn more.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL ADVISORY LIFTED

Global Affairs Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada provided updated advice for Canadians considering travel to other countries. The blanket advisory to avoid all non-essential international travel has been lifted with the exception to continue to avoid cruise ship travel. Travel advisories will continue to be issued on a per country basis and can be found on the [Travel Advice and Advisories](#) website.

MANDATORY COVID-19 VACCINATIONS FOR TRAVELERS

Effective October 30, 2021, travelers departing from Canadian airports, and travelers on VIA Rail and Rocky Mountaineer trains, will be required to be [fully vaccinated in order to travel](#). To allow travelers time to become fully vaccinated, there will be a short transition period where they will be able to travel if they show a valid COVID-19 molecular test within 72 hours of travel as an alternative to providing proof of full vaccination. If travelers have not already started the vaccination process, or do not start soon, they risk not qualifying for travel as of November 30, 2021.

FEDERAL STANDARDIZED PROOF OF VACCINATION

On October 21st, the Government of Canada announced a [standardized Canadian COVID-19 proof of vaccination](#) will be coming soon that will provide a secure way for Canadian residents to demonstrate their COVID-19 vaccination history, both in Canada and abroad. **Travelers can continue to use their provincial proof of vaccination for domestic or international travel if their province is not yet issuing the standardized proof of vaccination.** Albertans can get their enhanced vaccine record with a QR code online at [alberta.ca/CovidRecords](#) without creating an account.

Question of the Day

Q: What do we know about severe allergic reactions following the receipt of a COVID-19 vaccine?

A: According to the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI), studies have found that in very rare cases people have experienced anaphylaxis after a first dose of their mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. However, despite this, they have been able to safely receive future doses of the same or another mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. In studies, the second dose was well tolerated with no or mild reactions. People who experienced a severe immediate allergic reaction after a first dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine should **consult** with an allergist or a physician before receiving future doses of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine; **receive** future doses of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine in a controlled setting with someone who is experienced in managing anaphylaxis and **be observed** for at least 30 minutes after vaccination. For more information on the timing of second doses of the vaccine please click [here](#).

National Info

[Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Awareness resources](#)

[COVID-19 resources: social media](#)

[Recording:](#) October 22nd news conference with Dr. Tam

Alberta Cases:

as of Oct 26th, 3:30 p.m. MST

AB Total Confirmed (Oct 25th– 442 new cases)	321,210
AB Recovered Cases	308,880
Confirmed First Nations On-reserve Cases	13,365
On-reserve Recovered Cases	12,540
On-Reserve Active Cases	698
Calgary Zone Confirmed	119,022
Central Zone Confirmed	35,748
Edmonton Zone Confirmed	100,860
North Zone Confirmed	43,513
South Zone Confirmed	22,016
Unknown Confirmed	51
Deaths due to COVID-19	3,063
On-reserve Deaths due to COVID-19	124
Active Variant cases	4,344

Useful Links

Dr. Adams Pandemic Fatigue

Dr. Evan Adams, Deputy Chief Medical Officer of Health with Indigenous Services Canada, joined CFWE radio on October 20th and you can listen to the discussion [here](#).

Regional Snapshot



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

AN INDIGENOUS PHYSICIANS ASSOCIATION & FIRST NATIONS HEALTH MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

COVID-19 TOWN HALL

TOPIC: VACCINE MYTHS

LIVESTREAM on www.ihtoday.ca/townhall
October 28 - 1:00pm-3:00pm EDT

THIS EPISODE FEATURES:

Dr. Danièle Behn Smith, MD, MPH, CCFP, IFMCP,
Dr. Marcia Anderson, MD MPH FRCP
Dr. Lisa Richardson, MD

Hosted & Moderated by

Marion Crowe, CEO, FNHMA

Dr. Evan Adams, Deputy Chief Medical Officer of Public Health
FNIHB, ISC



Indigenous
Physicians
Association
of Canada



First Nations Health Managers Association
Association des gestionnaires de santé des Premières Nations



Vaccine Update



HEALTH CANADA REVIEWING THE USE OF THE PFIZER COVID-19 VACCINE FOR KIDS 5 to 11 YEARS OLD

Health Canada is currently reviewing the submission for the use of the Pfizer-BioTech Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine in children 5 to 11 years of age. This is the first submission Health Canada has received for the use of a COVID-19 vaccine in this younger age group. The vaccine was authorized for people at least 16 years old last December, and for kids between 12 and 15 in May. As with all COVID-19 vaccines Health Canada said it will prioritize the review of the submission while maintaining high scientific standards for safety, efficacy, and quality. The assessment will include a detailed review of clinical trial results, as well as other evolving data and information about the health impacts of COVID-19 and variants of concern on children in Canada.

MATERNITY CARE PROVIDERS

With the emergence of the Delta variant greater numbers of non-vaccinated pregnant individuals with COVID-19 are presenting to hospital and requiring ICU admission during this 4th Wave, than any other time during the pandemic.

COVID-19 infection in pregnancy is more severe compared to non-pregnant females. While pregnant patients do not appear more susceptible to developing COVID-19 infection, those who test positive for SARS-CoV-2 are more likely to develop severe disease, be admitted to an intensive care unit, and require advanced life support.

The [Maternal Newborn Child & Youth \(MNCY\)](#) has been working with its community to develop multiple ways to encourage pregnant individuals to get vaccinated. They encourage all healthcare providers to have a conversation with a pregnant individual about vaccination every time they present to a maternity provider. A video has been produced to show how to have a conversation about vaccination. It and other resources have been posted [here](#).

Vaccine Snapshot

*as of October 26th



85,467 doses of vaccine have been administered in **46** Nations (bands) in Alberta.



At least **74.6%** of First Nations people living on-reserve or crown land have received their **first dose**.



100% of First Nations people aged 65 years and older living on-reserve or crown land have received their first dose.



91.7% of First Nations people aged 65 years and older living on-reserve or crown land have received two doses of the vaccine.



At least **58.7%** of First Nations people living on-reserve or crown land have received **two doses of the vaccine**.