

KAPAWE'NO FIRST NATION

COVID-19 VACCINATION UPDATE

COVID 19 VACINATIONS:

On February 9th, Kapawe'no held its first phase of the vaccination for the age category of 65+ Kapaweno Residents. A total of 20 First shot vaccinations were completed with the second dose set to be provided on March 22, for all those individuals who received the first dose. Only those who received the first dose will be booked for this clinic.

Kapawe'no received the Moderna Vaccine and will continue to receive the Moderna Vaccine until such time as all of the residents over the age of 18 years have been given the opportunity to be vaccinated.

Although requests have been made from OFF-RESERVE we can only provide the vaccine to ON-RESERVE RESIDENTS.

Kapawe'no First Nation follows the Provinces guidelines in regards to eligibility for vaccinations for the various groups. The exception for Kapawe'no is that those vaccinations will be administered here on Kapawe'no First Nation. Therefore, residents will not need to book for vaccination appointments outside of the Nation unless it is your desire to do so

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA VACCINE ROLL OUT SCHEDULE:

- 1. Nearing completion of Group 1 which was First Nations, Metis, Inuit age 65+**
- 2. Group 2 A:** Will include First Nations, Inuit and Metis People age 50 -64 on and off reserve
- 3. Group 2 B:** Will include Albertans aged 18-64 years of age with high-risk underlying conditions. (Please see separate document attached which outlines what is considered high-risk)
- 4. Group 2C:** Will include residents and staff of eligible congregate living settings (homeless shelters, group homes, mental health, and other supportive living); health care workers providing direct patient care; and caregivers of those who are most at risk of severe outcomes. (Please note that the Kapawno Treatment Centre on the Nation is included in this category)
- 5. Group 2D:** Will include First Nations, Inuit and Metis people aged 35-49 years, both on and off reserve.

Please be advised that due to the changes recently made by the province to extend 2nd dose vaccines for all Albertans, the increased availability of vaccines will mean that the province will go through the group 2 phases very quickly. The time line now identified for second dose has now increased to a four-month time frame. The projected time line for completion of all vaccinations is significantly shorter. The decision to change the second dose timeline was effective as of March 10th.

With this new information it is critical that Kapawe'no Members continue to do your research on the information and make a decision as to whether or not you will want the vaccination once it becomes available to your age group. Vaccinations are not mandatory and your decision on whether or not you will participate is totally your personal decision to make.

HOW CAN YOU BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT IF YOU WANT YOUR VACCINE?

ON-RESERVE RESIDENTS (All residents are eligible to receive the vaccination regardless of status or band membership) Province Rule

1. For each group, Health Centre staff will be contacting individuals to inquire if they would like to be booked in for an appointment.
2. **You also have the option to call the Health Centre and advise if you are going to proceed with the vaccination and have your name put on the list.** You must also provide your date of birth so you can be listed according to the age category you fall under.
3. Prior to the date of the actual clinic, you will be informed of the time of your appointment and the procedures that you will follow on the date of the clinic. The process is not long but you will be expected to remain at the site for at least 15 minutes after you receive your vaccination. Only those who are booked for a vaccination will be allowed in the designated clinic area. No other individuals are allowed due to social distancing requirements. This includes children. If you need someone to assist you due to language barriers or mobility issues you must advise of this at the time of your booking.
4. You will be expected to bring your Alberta Health Care card with you on the date of the appointment.
5. Once you receive your vaccination you will be given information on expected date that you will receive your second dose.

**** I encourage residents to call the Health Centre to add your name to the list. The protocols followed for vaccine distribution require all doses allocated to be used at the time of the clinic. If someone should fail to show up for their vaccine appointment, we have the option to vaccinate another individual in that spot, as long as they meet eligibility requirements. You may be given short notice to attend the clinic in order to receive the vaccination. ****

OFF-RESERVE BAND MEMBERS

1. Review the phases of the roll out and determine which category you fall under.

THERE ARE TWO BOOKING OPTIONS:

You can book your first and second dose COVID-19 immunization online or call Health Link at 811. You can also book with one of the pharmacies providing this service. The listed pharmacies were provided in previous information on this site.

You will need to answer a series of eligibility questions and you can choose the date time, and location of your appointment.

Once your appointment has been booked you will need to bring identification and your Alberta Health Care Card to your appointment. If you are booking under the group allocated for underlying health issues you will not be asked to provide proof, it is expected that this section will be used with an honor system and those booking in this category are being truthful that they have an underlying condition.

Please note that if you are booking online the process for age groups have been done in increments of age groups. Please continue to check daily to see if your age group is eligible to book. Due to the number of bookings being done you may have to check often.

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION PLEASE GO TO THE ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES WEBSITE.

www.albertahealthservices.ca Go to COVID 19 SECTION

If you have any further questions in regards to the Vaccination Roll out please feel free to contact me and I will do my best to answer any questions you may have. We do not yet have a Registered Nurse on Staff at Kapawe'no but I will do my best to provide you with information that I have access to.

Dolores Flett

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