



HPPH expands second dose eligibility

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, June 23, 2021

Huron Perth, ON – With increased COVID-19 vaccine supply in Huron Perth, local eligibility for earlier second doses continues to expand. Starting today, June 23, anyone who received their first dose of mRNA vaccine on or before May 30, 2021, can book a second dose appointment for a future HPPH clinic at a shortened interval.

Pfizer and Moderna are interchangeable mRNA COVID-19 vaccines, as endorsed by the Public Health Agency of Canada, the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI), and the Ontario Ministry of Health. This means that you can receive one of these vaccine products for your first dose and the other vaccine product for your second dose.

"Being fully vaccinated is very important. Two doses of vaccine – whether the same product or a mix of two vaccine products – provides safe and highly effective protection against the COVID-19 virus and variants, including the highly transmissible Delta variant," says Dr. Miriam Klassen, Medical Officer of Health for Huron Perth. "I strongly encourage everyone to get their vaccine as soon as possible, and to make their second dose a priority once they are eligible. The more people who are fully vaccinated, the less chance of COVID-19 spreading in our communities."

Know which vaccine to expect at HPPH clinics

All clinics on the HPPH website now show which vaccine is expected to be administered. If you would like to receive a specific vaccine, then book into an HPPH clinic that offers that vaccine. However, due to supply changes, we cannot always guarantee the availability of a specific product. In that case, we will offer an appropriate alternative. You can then decide if you wish to proceed and receive the vaccine.

If you want to rebook into a different clinic, you must first cancel your current appointment.

- To cancel your appointment, go to <u>www.hpph.ca/vaccinebooking</u> and choose the <u>Click Here to Cancel your</u> <u>Appointment</u> box. You can also call the booking line at 1-833-753-2098; press 2 (two). Please include your first and last name and the date, time, and location of your scheduled appointment.
- We thank all those who are cancelling unneeded appointments to help make these appointments available to others.

How to book an appointment:

- HPPH does not book second dose appointments when you get your first dose. You must book your second dose once you are eligible.
- Use the <u>HPPH second dose calculator</u> to find out when you can receive your second dose.
- Once you know your earliest appointment date, visit the HPPH booking system at <u>www.hpph.ca/vaccinebooking</u> or call 1-833-753-2098 for available clinics.
 - If your earliest possible second dose date falls within the date range of an upcoming HPPH clinic, please book an appointment. If clinics are not yet available during the time you are due for your second dose, please check back for future clinics.
 - You can also subscribe to the booking webpage to get alerts when new clinics are added.

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News Release

• Please be patient as large volume of website traffic and call volume can significantly slow down our systems and ability to get back to people quickly.

For more information:

- <u>www.hpph.ca/SecondDose</u>
- <u>www.hpph.ca/vaccinebooking</u>
- Follow us at www.facebook.com/HuronPerthPublicHealth and www.twitter.com/HPPublicHealth
- Call HPPH at 1-888-221-2133

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