

RCD COVID-19 Vaccine Communications Committee

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, 9:20 a.m., Apr 30, 2021)

Province Expands Eligibility to 55 Years of Age and Older - RCDHU Residents Can Book Appointments Locally on May 5th

Today, Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) is announcing that the Ontario Government has expanded eligibility through the provincial booking system to individuals 55 years of age and over. Due to limited vaccine supply from the province, RCDHU cannot open the local booking system to 55 years of age and over until Wednesday, May 5th. However, residents born between 1962 and 1966 (55 to 59 years of age) can now **pre-register** for an appointment only.

Pre-register only, means that **you cannot book appointments at this time**. This ensures that residents are readily available should RCDHU receive extra vaccine, and so that staff can plan and prepare for upcoming vaccination clinics. Residents on the **pre-registration list** may receive calls offering vaccination if extra doses are available at clinics.

We ask that residents please be patient as RCDHU is currently experiencing limited vaccine availability. As soon as RCDHU receives confirmation of vaccine shipments from the provincial government, more appointments will be added to the booking system. Please continue to monitor the website for upcoming availability of appointments.

Residents are being asked to please register online as this is the fastest way. Individuals are encouraged to ask a family member or friend to assist if they are unable to book online themselves. Only if a person is unable to register online, they can call RCDHU at 613-735-9724 or 1-800-267-1097, Ext. 200. Residents are asked to leave one message with their name and phone number, and someone will return their call as soon as possible.

People should contact their primary care provider if they have questions about their eligibility and/or personal health status before they receive the vaccine. Alternatively, those without a primary care provider can contact the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (VTAC) (1-844-727-6404) to consult with a family physician.

For a full list of those who currently eligible to book appointments for COVID-19 vaccinations and all other inquiries regarding COVID-19 and vaccine rollout, residents should visit [RCDHU's website](#). For details specific to vaccination registration and appointments (i.e., what you need to bring), visit the [COVID-19 Vaccination Appointment Checklist](#).

For more information, visit RCDHU's website at <https://www.rcdhu.com/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-2/> or call 613-732-3629 or 1-800-267-1097.

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