

RCD COVID-19 Vaccine Communications Committee

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, 9:00 a.m., May 5, 2021)

COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment Eligibility Expanding to Include New Groups

Today, Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) is announcing that it will be expanding COVID-19 vaccination appointments to be in-line with provincial eligibility groups.

Residents in the general population born between 1962 and 1966 (55 to 59 years of age) are currently eligible to book COVID-19 vaccination appointments. **Effective Thursday, May 6, 2021**, eligibility will further expand to include the following groups:

- Residents in the general population born between 1967 and 1971 (50 to 54 years of age).
- Remaining elementary and secondary school workers (including educators, custodial, school bus drivers, administrative staff).
- Workers responding to critical events (including police, fire, special constables, children's aid society workers, emergency management, critical infrastructure restoration workers).
- Enforcement, inspection and compliance roles (including by-law enforcement, building inspectors, food inspectors, animal welfare inspectors, border inspection officers, labour inspectors, WSIB field workers).
- Remaining individuals working in licensed childcare settings (including all licensees, employees and students on educational placements who interact directly with children in licensed childcare centres and in authorized recreation and skill building programs, licensed home child care and in-home service providers, employees of home child care agencies).
- Foster care agenda workers (including customary care providers).
- Food manufacturing and distribution workers.
- Agriculture and farm workers.
- Funeral, crematorium and cemetery workers.

Please note that individuals 60 years of age and over and all other previously eligible groups who have not booked appointments can still do so.

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. Please **book only one appointment per person** to ensure that appointments are available to other eligible individuals. **If you book an appointment, please keep it.** If it is critical to change your appointment, **please cancel through the link in the email** you received

confirming your appointment.

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 are currently eligible to book appointments for COVID-19 vaccinations, residents should visit the [COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility List](#). 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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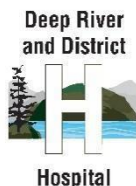
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