

# COVID-19 VACCINE NEWS BRIEF

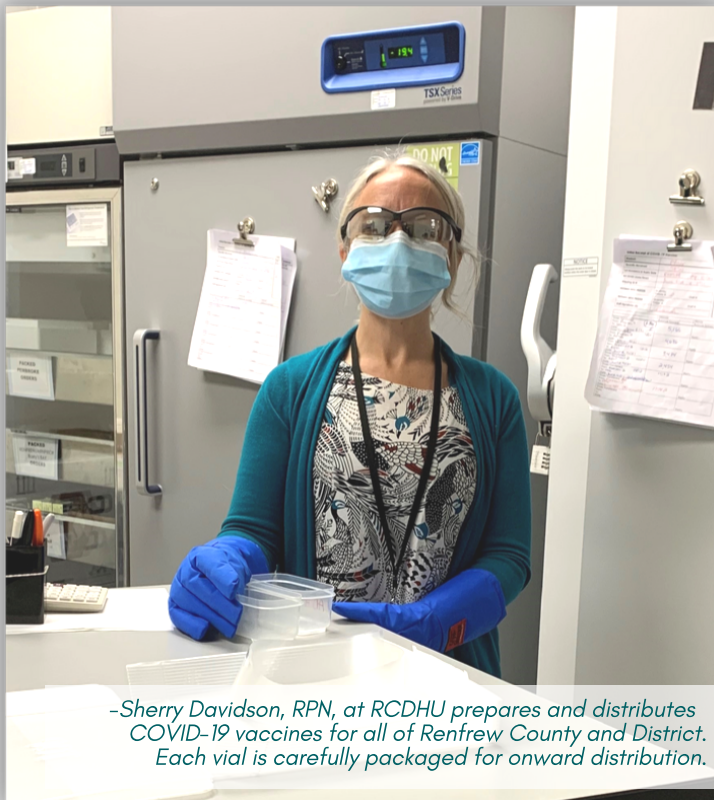
JUNE 16, 2021 | EDITION 17

## Local Update

As of June 14, a total of **74,806 doses** of the COVID-19 vaccine have been administered through one of several COVID-19 vaccination clinics across Renfrew County and District (RCD) with **67.1%** of RCD residents (aged 12+) having received at least one dose (56.9% have received one dose; 10.3% have received two doses).

**Remember: Even if you have been vaccinated, it is important to continue following public health measures, such as physical distancing, wearing a mask and hand hygiene.**

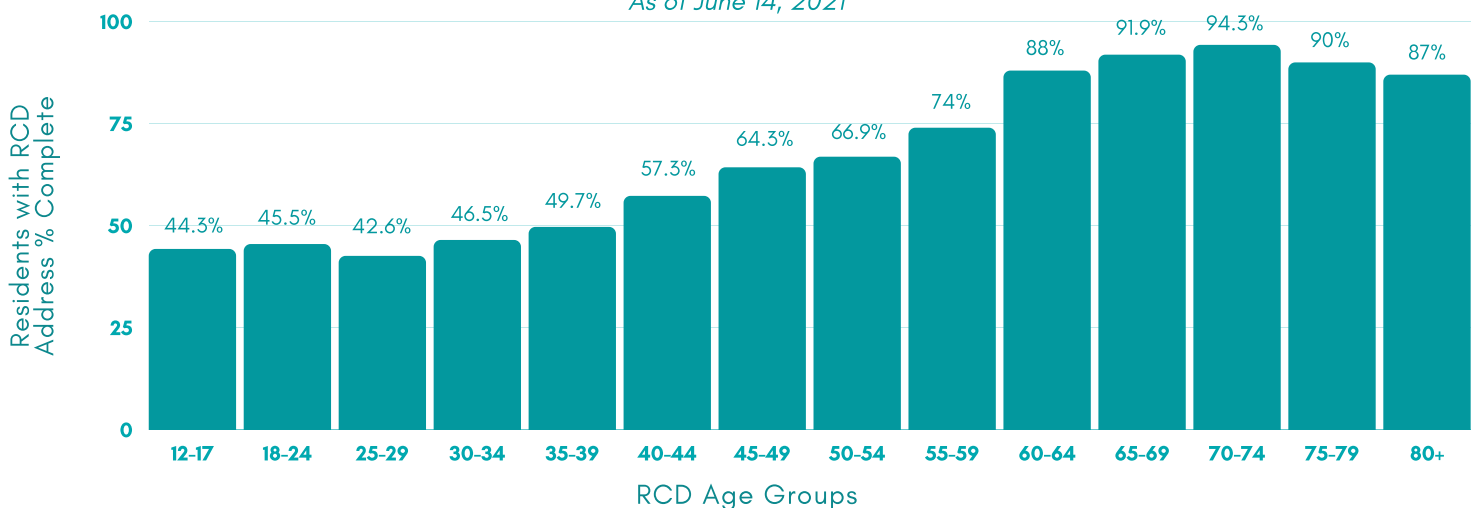
Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) and partners are making it easier for the public to cancel their own vaccination appointment(s) starting Monday, June 14.



*-Sherry Davidson, RPN, at RCDHU prepares and distributes COVID-19 vaccines for all of Renfrew County and District. Each vial is carefully packaged for onward distribution.*

### Percentage of RCD residents that have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, by age groups

As of June 14, 2021



Note: Total includes doses administered at clinics organized by RCDHU, pharmacies in RCD, and primary care.

You will now have three options to cancel your vaccination appointment (for full details visit: [How to Cancel COVID-19 Vaccination Appointments](#)):

- 1** Follow the cancellation process in your original vaccination appointment email.
- 2** Access our new [COVID-19 Vaccination Cancellation page](#) and submit your name and the date and time of your appointment to be cancelled.
- 3** Call Renfrew County and District Health Unit at 613-732-3629, ext. 202 or 1-800-267-1097 ext. 202.

## Youth Corner (ages 12-17)



This is a reminder that youth 12 to 17 years of age are eligible to book their COVID-19 vaccination appointment for the **Pfizer** COVID-19 vaccine ONLY, as this is currently the only COVID-19 vaccine that has been authorized by Health Canada for use in youth.

For more information visit:

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Youth \(Ages 12-17\) Information](#)
- [What Youth Need to Know About their Appointment](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Youth \(Age 12-17\) Consent Form](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Information Sheet](#)

## TIPS TO PREVENT FEELING FAINT OR FAINTING AFTER VACCINATION

Vaccination teams at the COVID-19 clinics across RCD have seen a few instances of individuals feeling faint or fainting after vaccination in the region's younger populations. As a result, Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) has some tips to help prevent individuals feeling faint or fainting after vaccination.

Health care professionals who routinely administer vaccinations can help reduce the likelihood of fainting among those receiving the vaccine by taking a few precautionary actions such as:

- Giving patients a beverage, snack, or reassurance about the procedure.
- Having the person sit or lie down to prevent falls and injuries.
- Having the person breathe slowly and deeply before the procedure and encourage thinking of something relaxing.
- Utilizing distraction methods like asking the person questions or having a friendly conversation while doing the procedure.

It is recommended that parents or guardians inform the vaccinator of any previous fainting with vaccination. It can also be important for parents or guardians to ensure that children arrive for their vaccine well hydrated with a full stomach and that they assist in keeping children calm and relaxed during the vaccination appointment and watch for any signs of fainting in the minutes that follow. Full details at: [Fainting Post-Vaccination is Not Uncommon, Especially Among Youth](#).

# First Dose Booking Information

**1. Individuals can book a vaccination appointment at either link: [www.rcdhu.com](http://www.rcdhu.com) OR [Ontario.ca/bookvaccine](http://Ontario.ca/bookvaccine).**

Booking an appointment online is the fastest way. Individuals are encouraged to ask a family member or friend to assist if they are unable to book online themselves.

If a person is unable to register online, they can call RCDHU at 613-732-9724 or 1-800-267-1097 extension 200. Residents are asked to only leave **one message** with their name and phone number, and someone will return their call as soon as possible.

**2. PLEASE BE PATIENT.** The availability of vaccination appointments will be based on the number of vaccine doses that RCD receives each week, which varies by each public health region based on the provincial government's perceived level of risk in those areas. Because of this, people should anticipate that it will take a number of weeks for everyone in the new groupings to be able to book and receive their vaccinations.

## Transportation Assistance



Assistance with transportation to COVID-19 vaccination appointments is available for seniors and adults with a disability who have no available transportation options. For more information please call **1-833-617-4357 (HELP)** or visit <https://communitysupport.covidresponse.ca/>.

# First Dose Eligibility List



All residents aged **12 and older** are now eligible to book a first dose appointment for vaccination (must be 12 years of age as of the date of vaccination)

*\*All those previously eligible will remain eligible for vaccination.*

**Vaccine clinic dates and times are only available based on vaccine supply.**



Eligibility expansion will result in **longer wait times** for appointments. Please be patient as you wait for appointments to become available.

## Weekly Extra Dose Sign Up List



Residents who have been unable to book a first dose vaccine appointment or for those eligible to receive an earlier second dose appointment, due to high demand, can now add their name to a weekly list, which will allow residents to be called for last minute or same day appointments that open at various clinics across Renfrew County and District (RCD).

To add your name to the Weekly Extra Dose Sign-Up List, click <https://bit.ly/3wFWMVY> or visit [www.rcdhu.com](http://www.rcdhu.com) and click on the COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout webpage and scroll down to the link for the Weekly Extra Dose Sign-Up List. **The Extra Dose Sign-Up List is not in place of booking an appointment and everyone should continue to book appointments as they become available.** Full details at: [New Weekly Extra Dose Sign-Up List Developed](#).



- Pembroke clinic staff preparing vaccine at Pembroke Memorial Centre

# Second Dose Highlights



**You cannot book your second dose appointment unless you are currently eligible for an early second dose appointment.**

We ask that all residents remain patient. We assure you that everyone who wants one, will receive their second dose. We will release more information as it becomes available.



**Please do not call RCDHU to book a second dose appointment at this time.**

As per the announcement from the provincial government regarding the shortening of the interval between first and second doses, RCDHU and partners are aiming to follow the anticipated schedule for eligibility to book a second dose appointment based on confirmed supply.

To view the anticipated schedule visit: [Anticipated Schedule for Second Doses of COVID-19 Vaccines](#).

## AstraZeneca Information



With informed consent, residents of RCD can now choose between a second dose of AstraZeneca (AZ) or an mRNA (Pfizer or Moderna) vaccine, at an **eight to 12-week interval**. Residents who received AZ at one of RCD's primary care led clinics held in Pembroke, Renfrew, Deep River, or Arnprior, will receive an email soon, with documents about making an informed decision about their second dose. Residents will then be able to book into either an AZ second dose clinic which will begin next week, or people can book their second dose at one of the mass vaccination clinics for an available mRNA vaccine.



If residents received their first dose of AZ at a pharmacy, **please contact that pharmacy for information on how to receive a second dose** of AZ or one of the mRNA vaccines, or book into one of RCD's mass vaccination clinics to receive an mRNA vaccine. Please note that you cannot book into a primary care AZ clinic. Everyone who received a first dose of AZ will need to read and complete the following document prior to vaccination: [COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Individuals who received a first dose of the AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD COVID-19 vaccine](#).



If you received AZ for your first dose, check out the new decision-making resource – [Did you receive AstraZeneca for your first dose? Here is what you need to know](#).

## Early Second Dose Information

Effective June 7, 2021, eligible people who can book an **early second dose** appointment based on availability of vaccine include:

- Residents in the general population aged 70 and over.
- High risk health care workers.
- Indigenous residents (on or off reserve) and non-Indigenous partners or household members.
- Any individuals vaccinated prior to April 18th, 2021.

Please note that if you fall under any of the early eligibility groups and already have confirmed a date and time for your second dose appointment, you can keep that appointment, or if you would like it to be sooner, you can cancel that appointment through the link in the email confirming your appointment and book a new one.



# Provincial Update

As of 8:00 a.m. on Monday, June 14, 2021, individuals who received their first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine are eligible to book their second dose appointment at an interval of eight weeks or more with informed consent. Full details at: [Ontario Accelerates Second Doses of AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine](#).

Beginning 8:00 a.m. on Monday, June 14, 2021 individuals who live in Delta hot spots in Halton, Peel, Porcupine, Toronto, Waterloo, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph and York public health units and also received their first dose of an mRNA vaccine on or before May 9, 2021 will be eligible to book their accelerated second dose appointment through the [provincial booking system](#) (for Peel and Toronto public health units), directly through public health units that use their own booking system and through participating pharmacies. Primary care providers will be reaching out to book appointments. Full details at: [Ontario Further Accelerates Second Doses in Delta Hot Spots](#).

# Federal Update

Further to Health Canada's statement on April 30, 2021, Health Canada has completed its quality review of the shipment of Janssen vaccines that are currently in quarantine. To protect the health and safety of Canadians in response to concerns regarding a drug

substance produced at the Emergent BioSolutions facility in Baltimore Maryland, Health Canada will not be releasing the shipment. Full details at: [Update on Janssen COVID-19 vaccines made with drug substance from Emergent BioSolutions](#).

# RCD Useful Links

## RECENT MEDIA RELEASES:

- > [How to Cancel COVID-19 Vaccination Appointments \(June 14\)](#)
- > [Fainting Post-Vaccination is Not Uncommon, Especially Among Youth \(June 14\)](#)
- > [If You Received AstraZeneca for Your First Dose - Here is What You Need to Know \(June 14\)](#)

## ADDITIONAL:

- > [Edition 16: June 9, 2021](#)
- > [COVID-19 Vaccination Screening and Consent Form](#)



- Morning staff huddle at the Renfrew vaccination clinic, Ma-te-way Activity Centre

## Partner Websites

