**E.D. COMMUNICATION**

 **January 29, 2021**

# Information on the COVID-19 Vaccine

## Earlier this month, the Province of B.C. announced its COVID-19 Immunization Plan, which will happen in four phases. Eligibility for all phases is based on the age you are turning in 2021 and [you can find more details here](https://communitylivingbc.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e5add160754480806d5e1ab4&id=21c8f1e565&e=wmjFEVCwQy).

## ***Phase 2 (February to March) includes individuals supported by CLBC who live in group homes.***

## ***Phase 3 (April to June) includes adults with significant developmental disabilities who are clinically very vulnerable.***

## It is important to understand the timeline for each phase may change due to vaccine availability. It is expected that all people in B.C. recommended to receive the vaccine will have the opportunity to get it in 2021. You will not miss your chance to the get the vaccine when a new phase starts. Once you become eligible, you are always eligible.More details about how and where you can receive the vaccine when it is your turn will be coming soon. You can also read more about B.C.’s COVID-19 immunization plan on [the BC Centre for Disease Control website here](https://communitylivingbc.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e5add160754480806d5e1ab4&id=219520b354&e=wmjFEVCwQy).**Immunize BC explains “Herd Immunity”**

“Herd immunity” is a term that is being used a lot. Here is an explanation from [Immunize BC](https://communitylivingbc.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e5add160754480806d5e1ab4&id=e11837f988&e=wmjFEVCwQy) about what it means:

***The more people in a community who are vaccinated, the harder it is for a disease to spread. If a person infected with a disease comes in contact only with people who are immunized (who have been vaccinated), the disease will have little opportunity to spread. The type of protection created when most people are vaccinated is called “herd immunity." It means that many of us are protecting each other, and especially the most vulnerable among us, such as:***

* Babies who are too young to be fully vaccinated.
* People who cannot receive certain vaccines for medical reasons.
* People who may not adequately respond to immunization.

You can also [click here to watch a helpful video about herd immunity.](https://communitylivingbc.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e5add160754480806d5e1ab4&id=c1e855685e&e=wmjFEVCwQy)

## **Staying connected and supported**

**Webinar answers questions about the COVID vaccine**

To help address concerns and answer questions about the COVID vaccine, the [Health Care Access Research and Developmental Disabilities Program](https://communitylivingbc.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e5add160754480806d5e1ab4&id=ab51e0dd80&e=wmjFEVCwQy) and [Centre for Addiction and Mental Health](https://communitylivingbc.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e5add160754480806d5e1ab4&id=4433e61eb1&e=wmjFEVCwQy) recently hosted a webinar with Dr. William Sullivan from Surrey Place in Ontario.

[You can watch a recording of the webinar here.](https://communitylivingbc.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e5add160754480806d5e1ab4&id=0301003ad0&e=wmjFEVCwQy)

For more accessible tools and resources for people with developmental disabilities and their caregivers, including mental health self-help booklets and COVID-19 information sheets, [visit the H-CARDD website here](https://communitylivingbc.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e5add160754480806d5e1ab4&id=0c59681dec&e=wmjFEVCwQy).

**Mental health resources for co-existing problems**
A co-existing problem occurs when people have a mental health problem and, at the same time, use substances in ways that could result in significant harm. [Learn more about co-existing problems here](https://communitylivingbc.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e5add160754480806d5e1ab4&id=cfe3dad34a&e=wmjFEVCwQy).

If you know someone who is experiencing a co-existing problem, or if you are concerned about yourself, do not be afraid to reach out. One way is to talk to a healthcare professional you feel comfortable confiding in. An assessment of your symptoms may be helpful. In addition to talking to a healthcare professional, consult the resources below for more information:

* **Alcohol and Drug Information and Referral Service –** call toll free at 1-800-663-1441. In Greater Vancouver, call 604-660-9382.
* **Local** **Crisis Lines -** Crisis lines are not only for people in crisis. You can call for information on local services or if you just need someone to talk to. If you are in distress, call 310-6789 (do not add 604, 778 or 250 before the number) 24 hours a day to connect to a B.C. crisis line without a wait or busy signal.

**Updated Support and Connection Toolkit highlights resources and activities**

In each edition of this Update, we share an updated version of the Support and Connection Toolkit which gathers links to resources and activities into one document for easy access. [See the most updated toolkit here.](https://communitylivingbc.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e5add160754480806d5e1ab4&id=234f2dc990&e=wmjFEVCwQy)

## **Kudos / Stories of the good at KSCL**

There were 3 KSCL Employees who successfully referred 3 new employees via the Referral Program.

Thank-you to:

* Katie Command for referring Annette Lovick
* Nina Salekin for referring Leah Penner
* Simone Mark for referring Sable Moyah

Each of these staff will be paid $50 for their referrals. Congratulations.

# Staff Postings

Since November 2020 we have had six postings that were filled.

* PPT at Teshi went Siena Barron
* PPT at Teshi went Rebecca Harrison
* TFT at Roalshary went Sable Moyah (Charlene D’s position)
* PPT at Prince went to Willow Gordon
* TFT at 29th Street- Annette Lovick (Kris M’s position)
* TFT at CO – Jackson Walde (Bryhre’s position)
* PFT CO Supervisor & Employ ME Supervisor at CO - **still open.**