

August 12, 2021

Dear elected leaders and valued community partners,

It is with great pleasure that we are able to inform you that Island Health's immunization campaign has reached the point that we can begin scaling down our mass vaccination clinics – but not before making it easier than ever to be fully vaccinated.

Since late December 2020, with your partnership, we have administered more than 1.2 million doses of vaccine in communities from Victoria to Ahousaht to Port Hardy. This is a remarkable accomplishment for everyone who made the choice to protect themselves, and those around them, from COVID-19.

Mass immunization clinics have been integral to the vaccination effort, and would not have been possible without your generous support and unwavering commitment to the health of your communities. Although we are ready to begin the transition to a smaller ongoing community immunization program, freeing up valuable public spaces like community centres and arenas for other uses, our work is not done. We must continue encouraging eligible individuals to complete their immunizations before fall arrives, with its promise of back-to-school and the need to spend more time indoors.

There are more ways than ever for people to get vaccinated quickly and conveniently – on their way to work, over lunch, or even at a local lake or shopping area. Anyone can walk in to an immunization clinic without an appointment for a first dose or second dose. Appointments are readily available for people who prefer that option, and compassionate, expert immunizers are available to provide extra support to anyone who needs it. In addition our [mobile 'Vax Van'](#) continues to visit popular recreation and shopping areas to make immunization even more accessible. We are actively working to secure spaces for smaller ongoing vaccination clinics as we move forward.

We hope you will continue to support this critical effort by sharing information about immunization opportunities and encouraging everyone in your community to get fully vaccinated before the fall.

We are humbled and deeply grateful for all you have done to support the immunization effort and the fight against COVID-19, and look forward to meeting with you all in the near future to discuss the program to date, and what it may look like in the future. The success of this initiative is a testament to the power of partnerships, and we look forward to strengthening those relationships in the months and years ahead as we continue to collaborate in support of healthy communities.

Warmest regards,

Dr. Richard Stanwick, Chief Medical Health Officer
Victoria Schmid, Vice President, Pandemic Planning

**See page 2 for planned clinic step-down dates*

MASS CLINIC CLOSURE SCHEDULE	
DATE	SITE
Complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port Alberni Friendship Centre • Aggie Hall, Ladysmith
August 19, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Spring, Salt Spring Island
August 22, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archie Browning Sports Centre, Esquimalt • Mary Winspear Centre, Sidney • Port Alberni Athletic Hall • Cedar Community Hall, Nanaimo
August 29, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eagle Ridge Community Centre, Langford
September 12, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Florence Filberg Centre, Courtenay
September 26, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campbell River Community Centre • Seaparc Leisure Complex, Sooke • Parksville Community Hall
September 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victoria Conference Centre • Victoria Native Friendship Centre
Existing sites to remain open in smaller spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualicum Beach Civic Centre • Beban Park, Nanaimo • Cowichan Community Centre

Links to more information:

- Clinic locations and hours: <https://covid19.islandclinics.ca/>
- Information about vaccination coverage in your region is updated on the [BCCDC's COVID-19 Surveillance Dashboard](#). Click on the 'map' tab and use the dropdown menu to select metrics such as case rates and vaccination coverage. Hover your cursor over the Vancouver Island map to see regional data.
- Information about [COVID-19 in Island Health](#) is updated daily in the COVID-19 section of IslandHealth.ca