Message from the Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As of November 19, 2021, Health Canada approved the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 pediatric vaccine for children aged 5 to 11 years old. Vaccines will be available at clinics in Haldimand and Norfolk counties beginning Thursday, November 25. Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect your child, your family, and your community. It is a safe and effective way to reduce the risk of getting, spreading and becoming seriously sick from COVID-19.

Preparing children to get vaccinated: Parents/guardians are encouraged to speak to their child about getting vaccinated including the <u>benefits</u> of the vaccine and how to prepare for the clinic visit, including <u>tips to ease any fears</u>.

Vaccination clinics for children: Clinics will be available in <u>many locations</u> including county buildings, the Norfolk General Hospital, schools, pharmacies, some family physicians' offices and other pop up locations. Parental/guardian consent will be required at all clinics.

Booking an appointment: Appointments can be booked through the <u>Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit COVID-19 Vaccine</u> <u>Booking Portal</u> or by calling our vaccine hotline at 519-427-5903. Children must be turning five years old by December 31, 2021 (born in 2016) to be eligible.

Ontario health card not needed: Children who do not have a health card must bring some form of identification, such as a passport or birth certificate.

Parent/guardian/caregiver resources available:

- <u>COVID-19</u>: <u>Children & Vaccines</u>: Information about the risks of COVID-19 in children, vaccine safety, benefits of the COVID-19 vaccine and more
- Max the Vax: Learn all about the COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 5 to 11
- SickKids COVID-19 Consult Service: Speak to a pediatric Registered Nurse about the COVID-19 vaccine
- <u>SHN VaxFacts Clinic</u>: Book an appointment to speak to a doctor to answer your vaccine questions

Child-friendly resources to help cope before and after vaccination:

- Reduce the Pain of Vaccination in Kids and Teens: A Guide for Parents
- AboutKidsHealth: CARD System Learning Hub
- Reducing Pain in Children aged 18 months or over
- <u>AboutKidsHealth: Comfort Promise</u>
- <u>Needles Don't Have to Hurt</u>

Please continue to visit our website at <u>hnhu.org</u> to stay up-to-date. If you have general questions about COVID-19, please call our Hotline at 519-427-5903. If you need immediate health care assistance, please call Telehealth Ontario 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 1-866-797-0000.

Thank you for all that you are doing to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

Sincerely,

Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit Vaccine Planning Team



Appointments can be booked at hnhu.org/popup

BRANT COUNTY HEALTH UNIT

www.bchu.org

Good afternoon/morning,

The Brant County Health Unit (BCHU) has begun administering COVID-19 vaccinations to children aged 5-11.

At this point in time, all COVID-19 vaccinations for this age group are being administered at community-based mass immunization clinics. **COVID-19 vaccines are not being administered at Brant schools at this time**.

BCHU is also exploring the opportunity for vaccine clinics in other convenient locations, which may include schools. Any vaccination of children aged 5-11 would require parental consent at the time of administration. Information will be available on the BCHU website if new clinic locations are to be used.

First and second doses for children aged 5-11 (or turning 5 before the end of 2021) are available by appointment only. You can book an appointment for your child on the <u>BCHU website</u>.

For further information, please visit the <u>BCHU website</u> or contact BCHU at 519-753-4937 and press '3'. You can also email your questions to covid19@bchu.org.