

July 28, 2021 – Big Summer Push with the VaxforBC Campaign

Yesterday, Dr. Penny Ballem, Executive Lead for B.C.’s immunization effort, joined Dr. Bonnie Henry and Health Minister Adrian Dix in sharing her gratitude to the millions of British Columbians who have stepped up and received a vaccination against COVID-19 over the past eight months.

To make it easier for people to protect themselves and their loved ones against COVID-19 – and to encourage more people to get vaccinated before school begins and the weather pushes us back indoors – the province introduced a 2-week [VaxforBC campaign](#). The campaign is highlighting unique ways for people to get vaccinated, such as Island Health’s [Easy Access Clinics and custom Vax Van](#), which are helping to reach people right in their community.



On August 4th, all health authorities will be hosting [Walk-In Wednesday](#) at [mass immunization clinics](#). While dose-1 walk-ins have been welcome at all clinics for several weeks, Walk-in Wednesday will be a special day where people can walk in without an appointment to receive their first dose **or** their second dose as long as they were vaccinated before June 16th, 2021.

Planning is also underway to scale down the mass immunization effort. Island Health will be moving towards a smaller, ongoing campaign to support the small portion of the population who have not yet taken advantage of the vaccination opportunity. The bulk of this work will happen at the end of August, but not before a final push to encourage as many people as possible to take advantage of our many easy-to-access, local clinics. On this BC Day long weekend, as you spend time with friends, family, and patients, please share this information with those who may not be fully vaccinated yet. Now is the time to get it done to ensure good protection from COVID-19 as we head into the fall.

Island Health Region Total Vaccines Administered To Date	% Population Immunized (18+) 1st Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (12+) 1st Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (18+) 2nd Dose To Date
1,128,379	80.0%	79.2%	64.6%

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

[Island Health Easy-to-Access Vaccination Clinics & VaxVan](#)

- Island Health is operating temporary immunization clinics and our VaxVan in some communities to provide easier access to vaccination.

[Immunosuppressive Therapies and Timing with COVID-19 Vaccination](#)

- Immunocompromised persons, including individuals receiving immunosuppressive therapy, may have a diminished immune response to COVID-19 vaccine. The recommendations in this document are intended to minimize the interference of medication/treatment with vaccination.

[Updated: FAQs on Masking at Island Health](#)

- These documents include new and recent and updated Q&As for the use of face masks at Island Health facilities.

[Updated: PPE during COVID-19 Pandemic \(July 22\)](#)

- Medical guidance from the BC Centre for Disease Control and BC Ministry of Health and Island Health's Infection Prevention and Control on the appropriate use of PPE by a healthcare provider, and when items of PPE need to be worn for safety and protection against COVID-19.

LINKS, RESOURCES & FAQs

BCCDC Resources:

- [New Today](#): This section of the website highlights the latest guidance documents and updates to the website for health professionals.
- [About the vaccines](#)
- [Resources for Health Professionals](#)
- [Reporting adverse events](#)

Doctors of BC:

- [Info for doctors getting or giving the vaccine](#)
- [Updated toolkit for doctors' offices](#)
- <https://www.doctorsofbc.ca/news/cev-attestation-form-available-doctors>

Frequently Asked Questions:

- [ImmunizeBC FAQ](#)