

Yukon's COVID-19 Vaccine Strategy summary

Through the tremendous efforts of Yukoners, and in cooperation with our federal, provincial and territorial colleagues, Yukon is ready to safely and efficiently deliver a COVID-19 vaccine. Vaccinations will be available to every eligible, adult Yukoner who would like to be vaccinated.

Yukon will receive the Moderna vaccine, which has completed all clinical trials. The vaccine was approved by Health Canada on December 23, 2020. This vaccine has been found to be 94.5% effective. The vaccine requires two doses, 28 to 35 days apart.

- **Yukon will receive enough vaccines to immunize 75% of the adult population in the first three months of 2021.**
- **Based on predicted uptake of the vaccine, we expect all adult Yukoners who would like to receive the vaccine will have access.**

With a primary goal of ensuring there is access to the vaccine for every adult Yukoner who wants it, the vaccine strategy has three key objectives:

1. **Ensure the COVID-19 vaccine is safely and efficiently delivered to Yukoners**
2. **Ensure there is barrier-free access to the COVID-19 vaccine**
3. **Establish and maintain confidence in the process and the COVID-19 vaccine**

Priority populations in Yukon will include but are not limited to:

- **residents and staff of group living settings such as long-term care homes, group homes and shelters;**
- **health care workers, including those who work in healthcare settings and personal support workers who work directly with patients and clients;**

- **people over 80 years of age and not living in long-term care; and**
- **Yukoners living in rural and remote communities, including Yukon First Nations people.**

For those living in long-term care homes and homebound individuals who receive home care services, the vaccine will be brought to them.

Mobile teams will travel to rural communities to deliver community-wide vaccination clinics. The order for the communities will be based on a number of considerations, including advice from the Chief Medical Officer of Health, current epidemiology and operational logistics.

In Whitehorse, the approach will be similar to the 2020 flu vaccine campaign. The COVID-19 vaccine campaign will begin with a mass clinic at the Yukon Convention Centre in Whitehorse that focuses first on priority populations. This clinic will then open to the general adult population.

It is anticipated that access to the vaccine will start in early 2021.

Ensuring Yukoners have access to a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine is a critical step, but it is important to remember that Yukoners need to continue working together to keep each other safe.

Yukoners must continue practising the Safe 6 plus 1 and follow COVID-19 public health measures until the territory's Chief Medical Officer of Health recommends otherwise.

Over time, widespread immunization will allow us to return to a life without COVID-19 restrictions.

