



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS
1004 Landooz Road
Prince George, BC V2K 5S3
www.bcafn.ca

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
October 22, 2021

BCAFN calls for immediate COVID-19 vaccine booster shots for First Nations in British Columbia

(Lheidli T'enneh Territory, Prince George, BC) — The BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) is calling for immediate booster shots for First Nations in British Columbia as outbreaks and deaths increasingly mount from COVID-19 infections in the fourth wave of the pandemic. The vaccine program started December 29, 2020, but now First Nations leaders are becoming increasingly concerned as case numbers continue to climb within their communities. First Nations leaders have taken action by implementing lockdown measures to slow and try to stop infections.

“Despite vaccination efforts earlier this year and public health measures we are experiencing high rates of infections and break through cases in this fourth wave of the pandemic. It is time for the booster shot,” stated Regional Chief Terry Teegee.

“I understand that BC health officials are working on a plan for the booster vaccine, but we are alarmed and are urging quick action as the situation is becoming an emergency,” further stated the Regional Chief. “It has now been approximately seven months since many First Nations in BC received their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

In a few days, starting October 25, 2021, the Saskatchewan government will be expanding their booster program. Individuals living in the far north and those living on First Nation communities, aged 50 years and older will be provided with a COVID-19 vaccine booster. The guideline in this province specifies at least 6 months after the second dose was received.

For further information, please contact:

Annette Schroeter
Communications Officer
(778) 281-1655

#honouringourancestors

