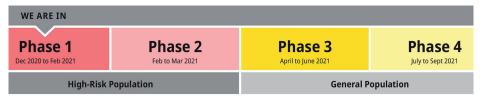


## Government of B.C. rolls out vaccine plan



timelines are likely to change based on vaccine availability.

## **COVID-19 Immunization Plan** Phase 1 Phase 2 Phase 3 Phase 4 Dec 2020-Feb 2021 Feb-March 2021 July-Sept 2021 April-June 2021 **General population High-risk population** People aged 79 to 60. People aged 59 to 18, in Seniors aged 80+ who are not yet immunized Residents, staff, and essential visitors to in five year increments: five year increments: long-term care and assisted living Indigenous seniors aged • 79 to 75 • 59 to 55 • 39 to 35 65+, Elders, and additional communities not yet immunized 74 to 70 • 54 to 50 • 34 to 30 Individuals assessed for/awaiting long-term care 69 to 65 • 49 to 45 • 29 to 25 64 to 60 • 24 to 18 • 44 to 40 Hospital health care Hospital staff, community People aged 69 to 16 workers who may provide care for COVID-19 patients GPs and medical specialists not yet immunized extremely vulnerable Vulnerable populations in Remote and isolated **Indigenous communities** select congregated settings Staff in community home Once more vaccines are approved/available, people 64 to 18 yrs who are front-line essential workers or work in specific workplaces/industries may be included later in Phase 3. support and nursing services for seniors The timeline for BC's COVID-19 Immunization Plan may change based on vaccine availability

The Province's <u>immunization plan</u>, announced today, applies an age-based approach. Phase 1 and Phase 2 focus on protecting those most susceptible to severe illness and death from COVID-19. Phase 3 and Phase 4 focus on the general population.

Adults older than age 60 have at least 5 times increased odds of hospitalization and mortality, with those over 80 carrying double that risk.

## K-12 support staff likely included in Phase 3

CUPE continues to advocate strongly that support staff be included in prioritized groups who are now included in the later stages of Phase 3.

According to a government <u>news release</u>, as additional vaccines become available, frontline essential workers or those who work in specific workplaces may also be able to start receiving vaccines later in Phase 3. British Columbians aged 69-16 who are deemed

to be clinically extremely vulnerable, will be eligible for early immunization in Phase 3.

The plan calls for every eligible British Columbian to receive a vaccine between April and the end of September – a total of 7.4 million doses (allowing for 2 doses per person). The timing of each phase may begin sooner than scheduled.

This plan is the largest in B.C.'s history. Health authorities – in partnership with communities, businesses, and municipalities – will set up clinics in 172 B.C. communities.

## **Vaccine Pre-registration**

Members will be able to pre-register for the vaccine with their mobile devices, computers or by phone. Details will be released by the end of February.

The steering committee has been assured that ample vaccine is available and we can expect to have a protected adult population by September 2021. Both the Minister and BCCDC have assured us that we can and should plan for a full return to school in September with a fully-protected adult population.