



Circle of Eagles Lodge Society

Covid-19 Vaccine Basic Information

For Staff, Brothers And Sisters

Prepared by
COELS Admin

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	2
Background	3
What is COVID-19?.....	4
What are my options for the vaccine?.....	5
Why should I take the vaccine?	7
What are the federal and provincial mandated differences?.....	9
Additional Frequently Asked Questions.....	14
Appendix A: References.....	15
Appendix B: Survey Results	16

Acknowledgements

Circle of Eagles Lodge Society (COELS) would like to thank the COVID-19 Steering Committee for reviewing these documents and providing comments and feedback. COELS would like to thank Reciprocal Consulting for conducting the brief survey, and for preparing and writing this report.

We want to acknowledge the Board, Management, Staff, Brothers and Sisters for their ongoing patience as COELS navigates through uncharted waters and continues to implement various COVID-19 prevention interventions, to avoid the spread of the virus. COELS implemented these interventions under the direction of Public Health Orders, government legislation, WorkSafe BC, WCB, Corrections Services Canada, and many other agencies.

Note: This document has been prepared for general basic information only, readers are encouraged to seek additional information which may change over time as more and more vaccine information becomes available.

Background

COELS enlisted Reciprocal Consulting to conduct a brief survey with Staff, Brothers and Sisters, to know how many of them felt comfortable enough to be taking the vaccine, to get information on any concerns about taking the vaccine, and to prepare this basic information booklet.

We have taken some of the information out of the Reciprocal Consulting Report to highlight some of the details, please see the full report below identified with their branding.

"This report presents considerations for the COVID-19 Vaccine roll-out, describing what COVID-19 is, and the current available vaccines. Surveys were distributed to the Circle of Eagles Lodge Society (COELS) staff and residents to understand what questions were most prevalent and if there were barriers or concerns for taking the vaccine. As such, this report considers pros and cons for taking the vaccines, a review of the federal versus provincial mandates for rolling out the vaccines, and answers some of the most frequently asked questions. Many references were used in creating this report and are cited with the reference number in brackets (e.g., (1)); with the full reference in Appendix A. Survey findings are presented in Appendix B.

Finally, it is important to note that information in this report can shift over time given the evolving situations with the pandemic and vaccine production. It is recommended to revisit contents in this report that are relevant to COELS policies at relatively regular intervals."

Reciprocal Consulting.

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a virus that affects your respiratory system causing illness to the lungs and/or other areas of your respiratory system (1). COVID-19 spreads by droplets from an infected person when they breathe, cough, sneeze, or talk near you and droplets enter your nose, throat, or eyes (6). Some of the main COVID-19 symptoms include:

- ⇒ Cough
- ⇒ Fever
- ⇒ Shortness of breath

After an exposure, symptoms may develop within 14 days. It is also important to note that while the symptoms are similar to a common cold, the COVID-19 virus is a potentially severe illness, particularly for people with underlying medical conditions and older adults (1).

What are my options for the vaccine?

Currently, there are two authorized vaccines available in Canada, both of which have been through rigorous scientific review, approved, and continue to be closely monitored to ensure safety and that the benefits outweigh the risks (4). While both options are high quality, Table 1 below will help you to understand some of the similarities and differences.

Table 1: Comparing the Pfizer and Moderna Vaccine

Questions	Pfizer	Moderna
What is it and how does it work?	The Pfizer vaccine is used to prevent COVID-19 by using mRNA to teach our bodies how to make a protein and build an immune response and antibodies, without the use of the live virus (2).	The Moderna vaccine is used to prevent COVID-19 by using mRNA to teach our bodies how to make a protein and build an immune response and antibodies, without the use of the live virus (3).
How is it given?	Given as an injection in the muscle of the arm. This vaccine works best by giving two doses, one dose followed by a second dose 21 days later.	Given as an injection in the muscle of the arm. The vaccine works best by giving two doses, one dose followed by a second dose one month later.
How well does it work? (efficacy)	This vaccine shows 95% effective in preventing COVID-19, beginning one week after the second dose is administered.	This vaccine shows 94.1% effective in preventing COVID-19, beginning two weeks after the second dose is administered.
Who is it for?	People over the age of 16.	People over the age of 18.
What are the side effects of the vaccine?	Similarly to side effects of other vaccines, common side effects are mild to moderate and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pain at site of injection - Feeling tired 	Similarly to the side effects of other vaccines, common side effects are mild to moderate and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pain at site of injection - Feeling tired

Questions	Pfizer	Moderna
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Body chills - Feeling feverish <p>As with any vaccine, there is a chance of serious side effects, but rarely occur due to the vaccine itself. This includes a possible allergic reaction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Body chills - Feeling feverish <p>As with any vaccine, there is a chance of serious side effects, but rarely occur due to the vaccine itself. This includes a possible allergic reaction.</p>
What if I have allergies?	Allergies for this vaccine are a potentially serious side effect, if you have known serious allergies to another vaccine, drug, or food, you should speak with your healthcare provider before receiving this vaccine (8)	Allergies for this vaccine are a potentially serious side effect, if you have known serious allergies to another vaccine, drug or food, you should speak with your healthcare provider before receiving this vaccine (3)
How well does it work? (efficacy)	As mentioned earlier, after taking the two doses, 7 days following the second dose will bring your immune response to be 95% effective in preventing COVID-19.	As mentioned earlier, after taking the two doses, 14 days following the second dose will bring your immune response to be 94.1% effective in preventing COVID-19.

*(2,3,8) Info in table retrieved from Gov Can website



Why should I take the vaccine?

After understanding how the available vaccines work and their effectiveness, it is important to understand why it is important to consider taking the vaccine. As with anything new, it can be sometimes scary, however we must consider the way our decisions affect yourself, your family and your community as a whole.

Table 2: Pros and Cons of Taking the COVID-19 Vaccine

Questions	Pros	Cons
What happens if I take the vaccine?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Immunity and prevention to COVID-19 - You will help save lives - The vaccine is safe - Contribution to herd immunity which is when there is enough people with immunity that makes it difficult for the virus to spread (7) - Activities return that were not possible during the pandemic such as visiting family and travel - Caring for next 7 generations, when we achieve herd immunity, we are protecting future generations from this serious disease (7) - Care for Elders, achieving herd immunity also means we are protecting each other, and especially for vulnerable people such as Elders, babies who are too young, and others in the community who have other medical conditions (7) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Everyone will still be required to take all precautions including social distancing and wearing masks as ordered by Provincial Health Officer regardless if you have received the vaccine (4)
What happens if I don't take the vaccine?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You will not be immune to the COVID-19 virus - You are not contributing to the protection of Elders, your community, or the next 7 generations

Questions	Pros	Cons
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You are not contributing to herd immunity - Future activities such as travel may be difficult to access without immunization - Herd immunity does not guarantee you will not be infected if you do not take the vaccine (7)

Table 3: Additional questions about taking the Vaccine

Question	Response
What are my rights?	It is everyone's right to make an informed decision on whether or not they would like to take the vaccine when the vaccine becomes available. The two vaccines are free to those who are eligible, and will be made available for everyone before the end of 2021 (4)
Should I take the vaccine, even if I've had COVID-19?	As we continue to learn and understand how our immune systems respond to COVID-19, it is unknown how long immunity from contracting the virus will last and is important to consider in the decision of taking the vaccine (4)
How do I trust the vaccine?	<p>As with anything new, it can be a little scary. Knowing some of the facts helps us to understand them better and why they work. Vaccines have prevented the death of many Canadians from other deadly diseases such as polio and bacterial meningitis (7)</p> <p>It's also important to ensure the information you are reading and accessing are credible and to think critically about online health information. We recommend getting information directly from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government of Canada - Province of British Columbia - British Columbia Centre for Disease Control <p>It also helps to trust something new when you understand the vaccine development and the vaccine approval process.</p>

	<p><u>Vaccine development</u>: The development of the COVID-19 vaccine was able to progress quickly due to advances in science and technology, international collaboration, and increased dedicated funding. (13)</p> <p><u>Vaccine approval process</u>: Canada has one of the most thorough systems to approve new vaccine for use in people that includes three phases of clinical trials and provide crucial information of the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine. (14)</p>
--	---

What are the federal and provincial mandated differences?

On January 22, the BC Provincial Government released their plan for the vaccine rollout:

COVID-19 Immunization Plan			
Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
Dec 2020-Feb 2021	Feb-March 2021	April-June 2021	July-Sept 2021
High-risk population		General population	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents, staff, and essential visitors to long-term care and assisted living Individuals assessed for/awaiting long-term care Hospital health care workers who may provide care for COVID-19 patients Remote and isolated Indigenous communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seniors aged 80+ who are not yet immunized Indigenous seniors aged 65+, Elders, and additional communities not yet immunized Hospital staff, community GPs and medical specialists not yet immunized Vulnerable populations in select congregated settings Staff in community home support and nursing services for seniors 	<p>People aged 79 to 60, in five year increments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 79 to 75 74 to 70 69 to 65 64 to 60 <p>• People aged 69 to 16 who are clinically extremely vulnerable</p>	<p>People aged 59 to 18, in five year increments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 59 to 55 54 to 50 49 to 45 44 to 40 39 to 35 34 to 30 29 to 25 24 to 18
<p>The timeline for BC's COVID-19 Immunization Plan may change based on vaccine availability.</p>		<p>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.</p>	
			COVID-19 IN BC

The plan. Graphic via BC Government.

Additional information about the roll-out at the provincial and federal levels are presented below in Table 4.

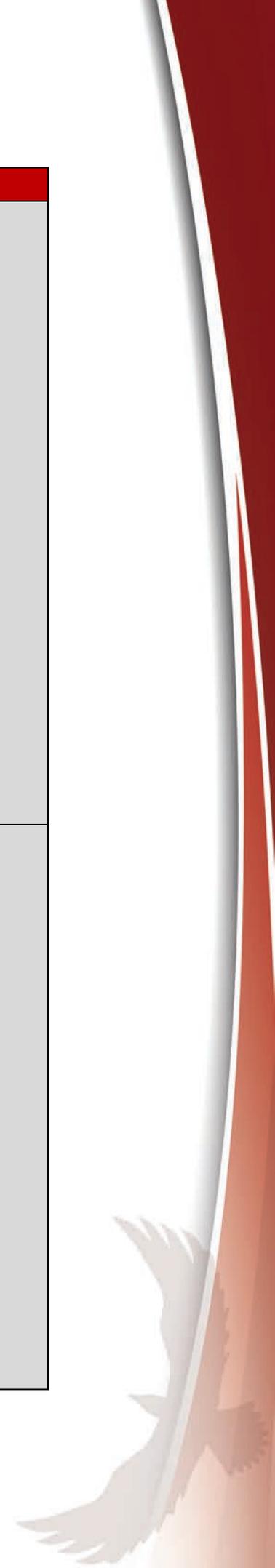
Table 4: Comparing Provincial and Federal Mandates to COVID-19 Vaccine

Questions	Provincial	Federal
<p>Where does COELS fit into the rollout of the vaccine?</p>	<p>Distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine will be available to those who are recommended by federal, provincial, and territorial public health bodies (11)</p> <p>Currently, British Columbia has created a distribution plan using phases to ensure the most vulnerable populations receive the vaccine first (4)</p> <p>Considering the distribution plan, individuals may be accessing the vaccine in different phases of the rollout.</p> <p>First groups for vaccination</p> <p>The first groups to get vaccinated between December and February:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Residents, staff, and essential visitors to long-term care and assisted living residences - Individuals in hospital or community awaiting a long-term care placement - Health care workers providing care for COVID-19 patients in setting like Intensive Care Units, emergency departments, medical-surgical units, and paramedics - Remote and isolated Indigenous communities <p>From February to March, the immunization program will expand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community based seniors, age 80 and above - Indigenous seniors age 65 and above - Indigenous Elders - People experiencing homelessness and/or using shelters - Provincial correctional facilities 	<p>Distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine will be available to those who are recommended by federal, provincial, and territories public health bodies (11)</p> <p>The vaccine will be available to priority populations first, and then everyone in Canada who is recommended which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Everyone in Canada, including those who aren't citizens and who are over the: age of 16 for the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine and age of 18 for the Moderna vaccine - Diplomatic staff based in Canada and their dependants, and locally engaged staff at Canadian missions abroad - Canadian Armed Forces personnel that are on active duty abroad (11) <p>Specific details of the rollout plans are located on your province or territory websites (11)</p>



Questions	Provincial	Federal
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adults in group homes or mental health residential care - Long term home support recipients and staff - Hospital staff, community GPs and medical specialists - Other Indigenous communities not vaccinated in first priority group (4) <p>The vaccine for the general population will follow the priority groups as more of the vaccine becomes available and if it is recommended for them (4)</p>	
<p>Is the vaccine mandatory?</p>	<p>Vaccines will be available for those they are recommended for, and are not mandatory (4)</p> <p>Note: Provincial health orders will remain in place regardless if you have taken the vaccine (4)</p>	<p>Vaccines will be available to those they are recommended for, and are not mandatory. (4)</p> <p>Correctional Services of Canada is beginning vaccinating to highest-risk inmate in federal correctional institutions, and will eventually be offered to all federal inmates based on the guidance from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (12)</p>

Questions	Provincial	Federal
<p>What are employers responsibilities to staff?</p>	<p>Employers have a responsibility to provide workplace safety to employees. Workplace safety will continue to be in accordance with the Provincial Health Orders, which currently do not hold an expiration date (9)</p> <p>More information about What employers should do can be found on the WorkSafe BC website https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates/health-and-safety/what-employers-should-do.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A guide to reducing the risk of COVID-19 - Responsibilities - Resolving concerns about unsafe work - Questions or concerns 	
<p>What are caregivers responsibilities for the residents of the care homes?</p>	<p>Similarly, caregivers are responsible for providing safety to the residents of the care homes (and vice versa). Workplace safety will continue to be in accordance with the Provincial Health Orders which currently do not have an expiration date (9. BC Gov workplace safety)</p> <p>More information about what workers should do can be found on the WorkSafe BC website https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates/health-and-safety/what-workers-should-do.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowing when to not come to work - Taking other preventative measures at work 	



Questions	Provincial	Federal
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resolving concerns about unsafe work - Questions or concerns 	
Residents versus frontline workers versus office staff in the vaccine rollout	<p>While Provincial Health Orders will remain in place regardless of weather or not you have the vaccine, individuals may be accessing the vaccine in different phases of the rollout. The strategy for BC includes prioritizing vaccinating certain populations and therefore will vary when you receive the vaccine, depending on how vulnerable you are.</p> <p>Based off the current information on BC Government website (scheduling of priority groups may be modified):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Residents of COELS who are Indigenous seniors (65+), Indigenous Elders, people experiencing homelessness, adults in group homes or mental health residential care, will be in the first group for vaccination from February to March - Front line worker staff currently are likely to be vaccinated in the general population timeline, however after priority groups are vaccinated, additional groups may be prioritized - Staff who are not on the front lines, or are able to work from home, are likely to be vaccinated in the general population timeline (4) 	

Additional Frequently Asked Questions

What information should I continue to monitor?

- Information and resources from this report were compiled mid-January 2021, and as we gain a deeper understanding on the virus and vaccine, some information is more likely to evolve with our understanding. Areas of evolution will likely include these areas:
 - o Vaccine availability, as the rollout of the vaccine continues, health officials are anticipating fluctuations in the timelines, supply, and availability of the vaccine in Canada and local distribution.
 - o As we move along in the rollout of the vaccine, likely, Provincial Health Orders will change as the vaccinated population in BC continues to grow.
 - o Researchers and scientists will continue to evolve an understanding of how long immunity of the vaccine and the live virus lasts, with time.
- We recommend monitoring information from these reliable resources:
 - o [Government of Canada](#)
 - o [Province of British Columbia](#)
 - o [British Columbia Centre for Disease Control](#)

Why are most health care professionals taking the Pfizer vaccine, while Indigenous communities have been sent the Moderna vaccine?

- Understanding the difference is important, while both vaccines have high efficacy, Moderna has more flexibility in the travel and administration to remote or isolated communities (5)

I am Indigenous, can I get the vaccine in the early stages of the rollout, even though I live in an urban area and do not live in a group home?

- If you do not live in a group home, and live in an urban setting, you will likely be in the general population timeline of the rollout, as the idea of the rollout stages are meant to protect the most at risk to then prevent hospitalizations and deaths. (4)

Appendix A: References

1. Brothers and Sisters COVID-19 Manual/Workbook: <https://coels.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/PART-ONE-Brothers-and-Sisters-COVID-19-Handbook-72dpi.pdf>
2. Government of Canada > COVID-19 Vaccines - Pfizer: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines/pfizer-biontech.html>
3. Government of Canada > COVID-19 Vaccines - Moderna: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines/moderna.html>
4. BC Government > BC's Response to COVID-19: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/vaccines>
5. Vancouver Coastal Daily Update: <http://www.vch.ca/covid-19>
6. BCCDC > How it Spreads: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/about-covid-19/how-it-spreads>
7. BC Government > Immunize BC > Why Vaccinate: <https://immunizebc.ca/why-vaccinate>
8. Government of Canada > Pfizer Recalls and Alerts > Recommendations for Serious Allergies: <https://healthycanadians.gc.ca/recall-alert-rappel-avis/hc-sc/2020/74543a-eng.php>
9. BC Government > Provincial Health Orders (PHO) > Workplace Safety: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-pho-order-workplace-safety.pdf>
10. FNHA > What you Need to Know About the Vaccine: <https://www.fnha.ca/about/news-and-events/news/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-covid-19-vaccine>
11. Government of Canada > Prevention and Risks > Vaccine Rollout: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/covid-19-vaccine-treatment/vaccine-rollout.html#a4>
12. Government of Canada > Correctional Service Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/correctional-service/news/2021/01/correctional-service-canada-covid-19-vaccine-roll-out.html>
13. Government of Canada > Vaccines and Treatment for COVID-19- progress: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/covid-19-vaccine-treatment.html>
14. BC CDC > Vaccine Approval Process: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/vaccine-approval-process>
15. Government of Canada > Safety After Authorization: <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/vaccine-safety/#a6>

Appendix B: Survey Results

Gender:

Males (n = 21)

Female (n = 18)

Trans (n = 1)

Role:

Staff (n = 19)

Residents (n = 22)

Plans to get vaccine:

Yes (n = 29) (71% of respondents said yes they will get the vaccine)

No (n = 10) (24%)

Don't know yet (n = 2) (5%)

Age:

26 – 36 (n = 5)

37 – 47 (n = 21)

48 - 58 (n = 8)

58+ (n = 7)

Staff plans to get vaccine:

yes to vaccine (n = 15) (79% of staff said yes they would get the vaccine)

no to vaccine (n = 3) (16 %)

Don't know (n = 1) (5%)

Residents plans to get vaccine:

yes to vaccine (n = 14) (64% of Residents said yes they would get the vaccine)

no to vaccine (n = 7) (32%)

Don't Know (n = 1) (4%)

Table 4: Reasons for Not Taking the Vaccine and Discussing the Barriers

Reason	n
Lack of trust in the vaccine development & approval process	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - relatively new - no long-term tests over 10 years - see how things go 	
Unknown future	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - not sure of how many other strains of COVID are to come 	
Lack of understanding and interest	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I am not going to put a substance into my body that I have no idea what it is or is in it - don't have info about it - Don't want to 	
Not at risk	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I am young and healthy 	

Table 5: Questions and Concerns from Survey

Topic area	N
Side Effects	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allergic reactions 	
Vaccine development	7
Trusting the Government	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government putting something in it 	
Pain as a result of injection	1
Vaccine ingredients	4
Serious adverse events	3

Topic area	N
- Death as a result of the vaccine	
Where and when is the vaccine available?	3
- When can seniors be vaccinated?	
Does it work?	5
- Does the vaccine protect against mutated strains of COVID-19?	
- How long is it effective for?	
Does the vaccine affect other medications?	2



Planning for the Covid-19 Vaccine Rollout

Circle of Eagles Lodge Society

January 2021



RECIPROCAL
CONSULTING

This report presents considerations for the COVID-19 Vaccine roll-out, describing what COVID-19 is, and the current available vaccines. Surveys were distributed to the Circle of Eagles Lodge Society (COELS) staff and residents in an effort to understand what questions were most prevalent and if there were barriers or concerns for taking the vaccine. As such, this report considers pros and cons for taking the vaccines, a review of the federal versus provincial mandates for rolling out the vaccines, and answers some of the most frequently asked questions. Many references were used in creating this report and are cited with the reference number in brackets (e.g., (1)); with the full reference in Appendix A. Survey findings are presented in Appendix B.

Finally, it is important to note that information in this report can shift over time given the evolving situations with the pandemic and vaccine production. It is recommended to revisit contents in this report that are relevant to COELS policies at relatively regular intervals.

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a virus that affects your respiratory system causing illness to the lungs and/or other areas of your respiratory system (1). COVID-19 spreads by droplets from an infected person when they breathe, cough, sneeze, or talk near you and droplets enter your nose, throat, or eyes (6). Some of the main COVID-19 symptoms include:

- ⇒ Cough
- ⇒ Fever
- ⇒ Shortness of breath

After an exposure, symptoms may develop within 14 days. It is also important to note that while the symptoms are similar to a common cold, the COVID-19 virus is a potentially severe illness, particularly for people with underlying medical conditions and older adults (1).

What are my options for the vaccine?

Currently, there are two authorized vaccines available in Canada, both of which have been through rigorous scientific review, approved, and continue to be closely monitored to ensure safety and that the benefits outweigh the risks (4). While both options are high quality, Table 1 below will help you to understand some of the similarities and differences.

Table 1: Comparing the Pfizer and Moderna Vaccine

Questions	Pfizer	Moderna
What is it and how does it work?	The Pfizer vaccine is used to prevent COVID-19 by using mRNA to teach our bodies how to make a protein and build an immune response and antibodies, without the use of the live virus (2).	The Moderna vaccine is used to prevent COVID-19 by using mRNA to teach our bodies how to make a protein and build an immune response and antibodies, without the use of the live virus (3).

Questions	Pfizer	Moderna
How is it given?	Given as an injection in the muscle of the arm. This vaccine works best by giving two doses, one dose followed by a second dose 21 days later.	Given as an injection in the muscle of the arm. The vaccine works best by giving two doses, one dose followed by a second dose one month later.
How well does it work? (efficacy)	This vaccine shows 95% effective in preventing COVID-19, beginning one week after the second dose is administered.	This vaccine shows 94.1% effective in preventing COVID-19, beginning two weeks after the second dose is administered.
Who is it for?	People over the age of 16.	People over the age of 18.
What are the side effects of the vaccine?	Similarly to side effects of other vaccines, common side effects are mild to moderate and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pain at site of injection - Feeling tired - Body chills - Feeling feverish As with any vaccine, there is a chance of serious side effects, but rarely occur due to the vaccine itself. This includes a possible allergic reaction.	Similarly to the side effects of other vaccines, common side effects are mild to moderate and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pain at site of injection - Feeling tired - Body chills - Feeling feverish As with any vaccine, there is a chance of serious side effects, but rarely occur due to the vaccine itself. This includes a possible allergic reaction.
What if I have allergies?	Allergies for this vaccine are a potentially serious side effect, if you have known serious allergies to another vaccine, drug, or food, you should speak with your healthcare provider before receiving this vaccine (8)	Allergies for this vaccine are a potentially serious side effect, if you have known serious allergies to another vaccine, drug or food, you should speak with your healthcare provider before receiving this vaccine (3)
How well does it work? (efficacy)	As mentioned earlier, after taking the two doses, 7 days following the second dose will bring your immune response to be 95% effective in preventing COVID-19.	As mentioned earlier, after taking the two doses, 14 days following the second dose will bring your immune response to be 94.1% effective in preventing COVID-19.

*(2,3,8) Info in table retrieved from Gov Can website



Why should I take the vaccine?

After understanding how the available vaccines work and their effectiveness, it is important to understand why it is important to consider taking the vaccine. As with anything new, it can be sometimes scary, however we have to consider the way our decisions affect yourself, your family and your community as a whole.

Table 2: Pros and Cons of Taking the COVID-19 Vaccine

Questions	Pros	Cons
What happens if I take the vaccine?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Immunity and prevention to COVID-19 - You will help save lives - The vaccine is safe - Contribution to herd immunity which is when there is enough people with immunity that makes it difficult for the virus to spread (7) - Activities return that were not possible during the pandemic such as visiting family and travel - Caring for next 7 generations, when we achieve herd immunity, we are protecting future generations from this serious disease (7) - Care for Elders, achieving herd immunity also means we are protecting each other, and especially for vulnerable people such as Elders, babies who are too young, and others in the community who have other medical conditions (7) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Everyone will still be required to take all precautions including social distancing and wearing masks as ordered by Provincial Health Officer regardless if you have received the vaccine (4)
What happens if I don't take the vaccine?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You will not be immune to the COVID-19 virus - You are not contributing to the protection of Elders, your community, or the next 7 generations - You are not contributing to herd immunity - Future activities such as travel may be difficult to access without immunization - Herd immunity does not guarantee you will not be infected if you do not take the vaccine (7)

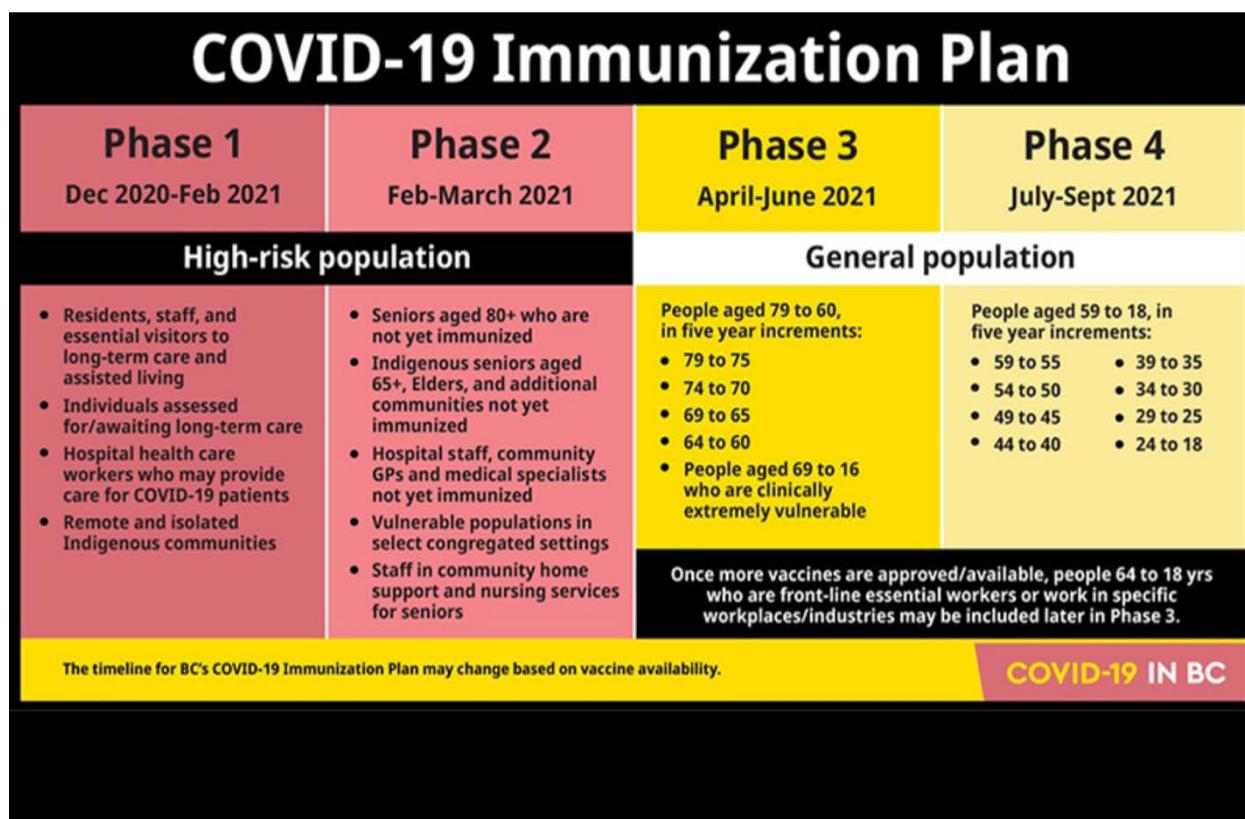
Table 3: Additional questions about taking the Vaccine

Question	Response
What are my rights?	It is everyone’s right to make an informed decision on whether or not they would like to take the vaccine when the vaccine becomes available. The two vaccines are free to those who are eligible, and will be made available for everyone before the end of 2021 (4)
Should I take the vaccine, even if I’ve had COVID-19?	As we continue to learn and understand how our immune systems respond to COVID-19, it is unknown how long immunity from contracting the virus will last and is important to consider in the decision of taking the vaccine (4)
How do I trust the vaccine?	<p>As with anything new, it can be a little scary. Knowing some of the facts helps us to understand them better and why they work. Vaccines have prevented the death of many Canadians from other deadly diseases such as polio and bacterial meningitis (7)</p> <p>It’s also important to ensure the information you are reading and accessing are credible and to think critically about online health information. We recommend getting information directly from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government of Canada - Province of British Columbia - British Columbia Centre for Disease Control <p>It also helps to trust something new when you understand the vaccine development and the vaccine approval process.</p> <p>Vaccine development: The development of the COVID-19 vaccine was able to progress quickly due to advances in science and technology, international collaboration, and increased dedicated funding. (13)</p> <p>Vaccine approval process: Canada has one of the most thorough systems to approve new vaccine for use in people that includes three phases of clinical trials and provide crucial information of the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine. (14)</p>



What are the federal and provincial mandated differences?

On January 22, the BC Provincial Government released their plan for the vaccine rollout:



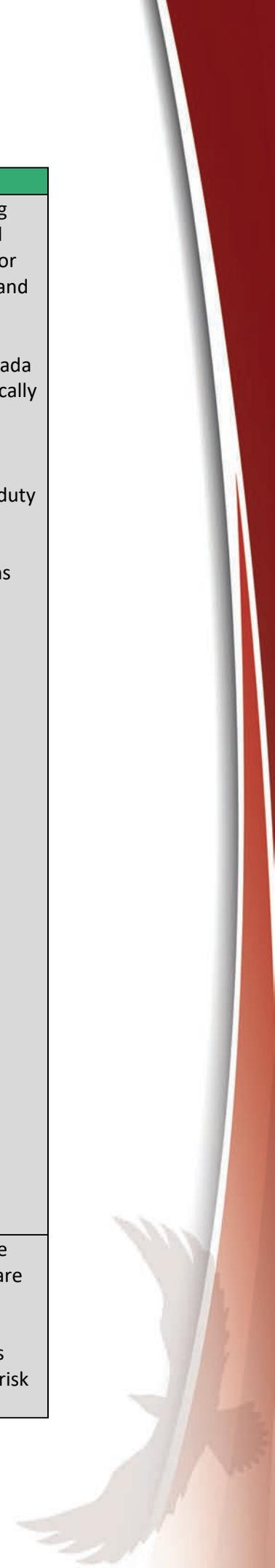
The plan. Graphic via BC Government.

Additional information about the roll-out at the provincial and federal levels are presented below in Table 4.

Table 4: Comparing Provincial and Federal Mandates to COVID-19 Vaccine

Questions	Provincial	Federal
Where does COELS fit into the rollout of the vaccine?	Distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine will be available to those who are recommended by federal, provincial, and territorial public health bodies (11) Currently, British Columbia has created a distribution plan using phases to ensure the most vulnerable populations receive the vaccine first (4) Considering the distribution plan, individuals may be accessing the vaccine in different phases of the rollout. First groups for vaccination	Distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine will be available to those who are recommended by federal, provincial, and territories public health bodies (11) The vaccine will be available to priority populations first, and then everyone in Canada who is recommended which includes:

Questions	Provincial	Federal
	<p>The first groups to get vaccinated between December and February:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Residents, staff, and essential visitors to long-term care and assisted living residences - Individuals in hospital or community awaiting a long-term care placement - Health care workers providing care for COVID-19 patients in setting like Intensive Care Units, emergency departments, medical-surgical units, and paramedics - Remote and isolated Indigenous communities <p>From February to March, the immunization program will expand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community based seniors, age 80 and above - Indigenous seniors age 65 and above - Indigenous Elders - People experiencing homelessness and/or using shelters - Provincial correctional facilities - Adults in group homes or mental health residential care - Long term home support recipients and staff - Hospital staff, community GPs and medical specialists - Other Indigenous communities not vaccinated in first priority group (4) <p>The vaccine for the general population will follow the priority groups as more of the vaccine becomes available and if it is recommended for them (4)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Everyone in Canada, including those who aren't citizens and who are over the: age of 16 for the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine and age of 18 for the Moderna vaccine - Diplomatic staff based in Canada and their dependants, and locally engaged staff at Canadian missions abroad - Canadian Armed Forces personnel that are on active duty abroad (11) <p>Specific details of the rollout plans are located on your province or territory websites (11)</p>
Is the vaccine mandatory?	<p>Vaccines will be available for those they are recommended for, and are not mandatory (4)</p> <p>Note: Provincial health orders will remain in place regardless if you have taken the vaccine (4)</p>	<p>Vaccines will be available to those they are recommended for, and are not mandatory. (4)</p> <p>Correctional Services of Canada is beginning vaccinating to highest-risk inmate in federal correctional</p>



Questions	Provincial	Federal
		institutions, and will eventually be offered to all federal inmates based on the guidance from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (12)
What are employers responsibility to staff?	<p>Employers have a responsibility to provide workplace safety to employees. Workplace safety will continue to be in accordance with the Provincial Health Orders, which currently do not hold an expiration date (9)</p> <p>More information about What employers should do can be found on the WorkSafe BC websit https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates/health-and-safety/what-employers-should-do. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A guide to reducing the risk of COVID-19 - Responsibilities - Resolving concerns about unsafe work - Questions or concerns 	
What are caregivers responsibilities for the residents of the care homes?	<p>Similarly, caregivers are responsible to provide safety to the residents of the care homes (and vice versa), workplace safety will continue to be in accordance with the Provincial Health Orders which currently do not have an expiration date (9. BC Gov workplace safety)</p> <p>More information about what workers should do can be found on the WorkSafe BC website https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates/health-and-safety/what-workers-should-do. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowing when to not come to work - Taking other preventative measures at work - Resolving concerns about unsafe work - Questions or concerns 	

Questions	Provincial	Federal
Residents versus frontline workers versus office staff in the vaccine rollout	<p>While Provincial Health Orders will remain in place regardless if you have the vaccine, individuals may be accessing the vaccine in different phases of the rollout. The strategy for BC includes prioritizing vaccinating certain populations and therefore will vary when you receive the vaccine, depending on how vulnerable you are.</p> <p>Based off the current information on BC Government website (scheduling of priority groups may be modified):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Residents of COELS who are Indigenous seniors (65+), Indigenous Elders, people experiencing homelessness, adults in group homes or mental health residential care, will be in the first group for vaccination from February to March - Front line worker staff currently are likely to be vaccinated in the general population timeline, however after priority groups are vaccinated, additional groups may be prioritized - Staff who are not on the front lines, or are able to work from home, are likely to be vaccinated in the general population timeline (4) 	



Additional Frequently Asked Questions

What information should I continue to monitor?

- Information and resources from this report were compiled mid-January 2021, and as we gain a deeper understanding on the virus and vaccine, some information is more likely to evolve with our understanding. Areas of evolution will likely include these areas:
 - o Vaccine availability, as the rollout of the vaccine continues, health officials are anticipating fluctuations in the timelines, supply, and availability of the vaccine in Canada and local distribution
 - o As we move along in the rollout of the vaccine, likely, Provincial Health Orders will change as the vaccinated population in BC continues to grow
 - o Researchers and scientists will continue to evolve an understanding of how long immunity of the vaccine and the live virus lasts, with time
- We recommend monitoring information from these reliable resources:
 - o [Government of Canada](#)
 - o [Province of British Columbia](#)
 - o [British Columbia Centre for Disease Control](#)

Why are most health care professionals taking the Pfizer vaccine, while Indigenous communities have been sent the Moderna vaccine?

- Understanding the difference is important, while both vaccines have high efficacy, Moderna has more flexibility in the travel and administration to remote or isolated communities (5)

I am Indigenous, can I get the vaccine in the early stages of the rollout, even though I live in a urban area and do not live in a group home?

- If you do not live in a group home, and live in an urban setting, you will likely be in the general population timeline of the rollout, as the idea of the rollout stages are meant to protect the most at risk to then prevent hospitalizations and deaths. (4)

Appendix A: References

16. Brothers and Sisters COVID-19 Manual/Workbook: <https://coels.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/PART-ONE-Brothers-and-Sisters-COVID-19-Handbook-72dpi.pdf>
17. Government of Canada > COVID-19 Vaccines – Pfizer: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines/pfizer-biontech.html>
18. Government of Canada > COVID-19 Vaccines – Moderna: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines/moderna.html>
19. BC Government > BC’s Response to COVID-19: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/vaccines>
20. Vancouver Coastal Daily Update: <http://www.vch.ca/covid-19>
21. BCCDC > How it Spreads: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/about-covid-19/how-it-spreads>
22. BC Government > Immunize BC > Why Vaccinate: <https://immunizebc.ca/why-vaccinate>
23. Government of Canada > Pfizer Recalls and Alerts > Recommendations for Serious Allergies: <https://healthycanadians.gc.ca/recall-alert-rappel-avis/hc-sc/2020/74543a-eng.php>
24. BC Government > Provincial Health Orders (PHO) > Workplace Safety: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-pho-order-workplace-safety.pdf>
25. FNHA > What you Need to Know About the Vaccine: <https://www.fnha.ca/about/news-and-events/news/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-covid-19-vaccine>
26. Government of Canada > Prevention and Risks > Vaccine Rollout: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/covid-19-vaccine-treatment/vaccine-rollout.html#a4>
27. Government of Canada > Correctional Service Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/correctional-service/news/2021/01/correctional-service-canada-covid-19-vaccine-roll-out.html>
28. Government of Canada > Vaccines and Treatment for COVID-19- progress: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/covid-19-vaccine-treatment.html>
29. BC CDC > Vaccine Approval Process: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/vaccine-approval-process>
30. Government of Canada > Safety After Authorization: <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/vaccine-safety/#a6>

Appendix B: References

Gender:

Males (n = 21)
 Female (n = 18)
 Trans (n= 1)

Role:

Staff (n = 19)
 Residents (n = 22)

Plans to get vaccine:

Yes (n = 29) (71% of respondents said yes they will get the vaccine)
 No (n = 10) (24%)
 Don't know yet (n = 2) (5%)

Age:

26 – 36 (n = 5)
 37 – 47 (n = 21)
 48 - 58 (n = 8)
 58+ (n = 7)

Staff plans to get vaccine:

yes to vaccine (n = 15) (79% of staff said yes they would get the vaccine)
 no to vaccine (n = 3) (16 %)
 Don't know (n = 1) (5%)

Residents plans to get vaccine:

yes to vaccine (n = 14) (64% of Residents said yes they would get the vaccine)
 no to vaccine (n = 7) (32%)
 Don't Know (n = 1) (4%)

Table 4: Reasons for Not Taking the Vaccine and Discussing the Barriers

Reason	n
Lack of trust in the vaccine development & approval process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - relatively new - no long-term tests over 10 years - see how things go 	6
Unknown future <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - not sure of how many other strains of COVID are to come 	1
Lack of understanding and interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I am not going to put a substance into my body that I have no idea what it is or is in it - don't have info about it - Don't want to 	5
Not at risk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I am young and healthy 	1

Table 5: Questions and Concerns from Survey

Topic area	N
Side Effects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allergic reactions 	9
Vaccine development	7
Trusting the Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government putting something in it 	2
Pain as a result of injection	1
Vaccine ingredients	4
Serious adverse events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Death as a result of the vaccine 	3

Topic area	N
Where and when is the vaccine available? - When can seniors be vaccinated?	3
Does it work? - Does the vaccine protect against mutated strains of COVID-19? - How long is it effective for?	5
Does the vaccine affect other medications?	2





Circle of Eagles Lodge Society

Head Office Administration

6520 Salish Drive
Vancouver B.C. V6N 2C7

Tel: 604-428-7963
Fax: 604-874-3858

Naa-na-himyis Brothers Healing Lodge

1470 East Broadway
Vancouver B.C. V5N 1V6

Tel: 604-874-9610
Fax: 604-874-3858

Anderson Lodge Healing Centre for Women

2716 Clark Drive
Vancouver B.C. V5N 3H6

Tel: 604-874-1246
Fax: 604-874-9464

COELS Resource Center

2008 Wall Street
Vancouver B.C. V5L 1J5

Tel: 778-658-5760
Fax: 604-874-3858

www.coels.ca