COVID-19:

Fighting the pandemic with COVID-19 vaccines

Vaccination against COVID-19 is one of the best ways to help stop the coronavirus pandemic. Getting vaccinated as soon as you can will help protect you from the virus. It will also help make sure you aren’t accidentally spreading the virus to other people—people who could really be hurt.

Like a lot of people, you may have questions about when you can get the vaccine and what will be involved. We’ll know more about those details in the coming weeks and months. Check with your doctor’s office or local health unit for the latest information in your area.

Here are some things we know now:

✓ You can’t get COVID-19 from a vaccine.
   And the sooner you get vaccinated, the sooner you’ll have protection from getting COVID-19 from somebody else.

✓ Vaccine safety is a top priority.
   Any vaccines given to the public have been very well-tested. They also have been approved by Health Canada. Health Canada has very high standards and will continue to monitor the vaccines for safety.

✓ Side effects from the COVID-19 vaccine are a lot like common side effects from other vaccines.
   They include things like a slight fever, chills, tiredness, headache, and soreness where you got the vaccine. Some people have had more serious side effects, but they can be treated.

✓ The risk of serious problems from COVID-19 is higher than the risk of serious problems from a vaccine.
   Even if you’re young and healthy, COVID-19 could make you very sick. It could even kill you. But serious problems from vaccines are rare. Side effects are usually mild and only last a couple of days. And they’re a sign that your body is doing what it should to build protection against disease.

The COVID-19 vaccines are a powerful tool in the fight to end the pandemic.

Getting a vaccine to as many people as we can, as soon as we can, will help protect everyone. When you get your own COVID-19 vaccine, you can feel proud of doing your part to help your community stay safe and take steps toward getting back to normal life.