



**May 18, 2021**

Canada's immunization efforts are ramping up rapidly. In BC to date, over 55% of our eligible population has received at least one COVID-19 vaccine and, as of May 16<sup>th</sup>, anyone over the age of 18 can book their appointment online using the [Get Vaccinated](#) website. While this is fantastic news and BC is well on its way to vaccinating the majority of our population, there is more to do.

Since the declaration of the pandemic in March 2020, BC nurses have been at the forefront of COVID-19 response, management and now immunization roll-out. Our provincial recovery from COVID-19 will rely heavily on nurses as we continue to vaccinate our population. Nurses have stood shoulder to shoulder with British Columbians and, as a consistently ranked top trusted profession, nurses understand that we hold a sacred trust with our patients and clients.

Nurses and nursing practice are guided by science and scientific evidence, and all nurses have a professional obligation to be part of health promotion and disease prevention public health strategy that will undoubtedly save future lives. Through decades of scientific research and evidence, we know that vaccines are an effective, safe, and transformative life-saving intervention. Quite simply, vaccines work.

While we understand that people may still have questions about COVID-19 vaccines, nurses are here to answer those questions and guide patients and clients with evidence-based information. As the professional association representing each of BC's nursing designations (Licensed Practical Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses and Registered Psychiatric Nurses), NNPBC reminds everyone that each of the COVID-19 vaccines approved for use in Canada are safe and rigorously tested. As we have heard from our provincial health officer, Dr Bonnie Henry, the best vaccine is the one you are offered. When your turn comes, please take your COVID-19 vaccine, and if you have questions, ask a nurse. Remember, with each vaccine dose administered, we are working together to end this pandemic.

**Resources:**

- [Guide to COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Mythbusters](#)
- [Tackling Vaccine Hesitancy: A Nursing Approach](#)