MEDIA RELEASE



For immediate release

July 15, 2022

COVID-19 vaccine for children 6 months to 5 years of age approved but not yet available locally

NWHU is pleased to hear that the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for children 6 months to 5 years of age has been approved by Health Canada.

Vaccines are an effective tool to help reduce the spread and severity of COVID-19 for those who get vaccinated, their families, and the community.

"We can minimize the impact of COVID-19 in our communities when people get vaccinated and practice other measures such as appropriate self-isolation, wearing a well-fitted mask, physical distancing, and hand hygiene" says Dr Kit Young Hoon, medical officer of Health at Northwestern Health Unit (NWHU).

With the vaccine for children now approved by Health Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Health will develop guidelines for use in this province and can start shipping vaccine to local public health units.

Dr Young Hoon says "we expect to have vaccine here in the local area within the next few weeks, and will tell the public when it is available."

For current info about COVID-19 vaccinations in our region go to the health unit's website at <u>www.nwhu.on.ca.</u>

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