



# Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority

HEALTH CARE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FIRST NATIONS

P.O. Box 1300  
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Sioux Lookout, ON  
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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Sioux Lookout Area Chiefs and Health Directors

FROM: Dr. Lloyd Douglas, Public Health Physician, SLFNHA

DATE: May 14, 2021

SUBJECT: Public Health Memo – Operation Remote Immunity 2.0 -Youth Vaccines 12-17 years

The Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority (SLFNHA) would like to share that Ontario is looking to vaccinate youth ages 12-17 years, starting May 31, 2021. This will include Indigenous youth and Ontario will be looking to verify the Indigenous youth population numbers.

- The vaccine that will be made available to this population will be the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.
- Health Canada approved the vaccine and deems this vaccine as safe for this age group.
- The Pfizer vaccine is the first vaccine to be authorized for use in this age group.

Discussions have started to explore with Ornge the possibility of assisting in an Operation Remote Immunity 2.0 – Vaccination for Youth. Provided that Ornge receives permission to proceed with ORI 2.0, Ornge will seek support from key stakeholders, including SLFNHA as well as other partners. Ornge is working on a tentative schedule with a tentative goal to have both doses completed by end of July.

Many people in the region have made the choice to get the COVID-19 vaccine. We have not reached herd immunity and we must continue to work together as a community to protect each other. Plans are underway so that vaccines will be available regularly in communities for people who decide to get it.

We continue to emphasize the importance of choosing the COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccine will: protect you, protect your loved ones, slow the spread of the virus, and help end the pandemic.

We would like to remind communities that even those who have had the COVID vaccine still could get the virus. It is strongly recommended that all individuals continue to follow all public health measures. This includes those who have taken the first shot or who have been fully vaccinated. Important public health measures include:

- physical distancing
- hand washing
- wearing masks in public where physical distancing cannot be maintained
- avoiding unnecessary travel
- keeping to a single social bubble
- travellers self-isolate and receive a test upon return and 5-7 days later
- avoiding the 3 Cs: close contact, crowds and closed spaces

If you have any community member with symptoms that could be caused by COVID-19, please contact your nursing station to be assessed as soon as possible.



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If you have any questions about how to best protect the health of your community, please do not hesitate to contact the following: Emily Paterson, Director of Approaches to Community Wellbeing ([Emily.Paterson@slnha.com](mailto:Emily.Paterson@slnha.com)) or Dr. Lloyd Douglas, SLFNHA Public Health Physician ([L.Douglas@slnha.com](mailto:L.Douglas@slnha.com)).

cc. James Morris, Executive Director, SLFNHA  
SLFNHA Board of Directors  
SLFNHA Chiefs Committee on Health  
Community Health Directors and Physicians  
Sioux Lookout area Tribal Councils  
Nishnawbe Aski Nation