



December 15, 2021

Applicant c/o  
Access and Privacy Officer  
Corporate Information Management, ATIPP Office

Final Response ATIPP Access Request 21-397

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**Decision**

The Department of Justice has searched the Corrections Branch and has identified records responsive to Access Request #21-397. Our final response on the information is as follows:

**Access Granted in Full**

The Department of Justice has provided records relating to the request noted below in their entirety:

***I am requesting copies of all policies and procedures concerning the roll-out of the first and second doses of vaccines in correctional institutions in Yukon. Timeframe: January 1, 2021 - November 1, 2021***

***ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Can you ask the applicant which vaccines they are referring to in the request? – All vaccines, please.***

There will be no charge for this request.

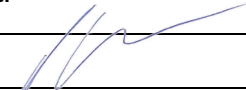
**Right to Complain**

You have the right to make a complaint in respect of this response to the Yukon Information and Privacy Commissioner under Section 66 of the ATIPP Act, no later than 30 business days after you receive this response. To make a complaint, contact:

Yukon Information and Privacy Commissioner  
3162 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.  
Whitehorse, YK Y1A 1G3  
E-mail: [intake@yukonombudsman.ca](mailto:intake@yukonombudsman.ca)  
Phone: (867) 667-8468; toll free (in Yukon) 1-800-661-0408 (ext. 8468)

**Contact Person in Department**

If there are any questions, please contact Alejandro Valdes-De Paz, Access and Privacy Analyst for the Department of Justice at (867) 667-9503 or [jus.atipp@yukon.ca](mailto:jus.atipp@yukon.ca)

Reviewed by:	Signature:
John Phelps, Deputy Minister, Justice	

## **Media request – COVID-19 protocols for WCC since Spring 2020**

- The Department of Justice continues to follow the expertise and recommendations of Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Corrections Branch has taken a measured, proactive approach in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. This approach has been developed in consultation with the Yukon Communicable Disease Centre and the office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and has been guided by the principle of least restrictive measures.
- Our approach aims to balance the health and safety of correctional staff, clients and the public with values that are integral to the delivery of humane correctional services, including dignity, respect and legality.
- The Corrections Branch continues to carefully monitor and assess the situation presented by the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure that its response is appropriate and proportional to the level of risk presented.
- The Corrections Branch continues to review the individualized circumstances of each person incarcerated at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre (WCC) to determine which, if any, can be released on a temporary absence and housed in the community without compromising their safety or that of the public.
- This work is undertaken proactively to ensure that all individuals are housed in the most suitable location should there be a pandemic-related issue within the WCC.
- The diligence with which the proactive, measured approach was implemented by the Corrections Branch has been instrumental in precluding the spread of COVID-19 within the WCC. There have been no cases of COVID-19 among the custodial population or staff.
- On March 14, 2020, the WCC initiated COVID-19 screening as part of the standard intake process for all individuals admitted to the WCC or the Arrest Processing Unit.
- Two days later, the Corrections Branch notified inmates and the public that all visits would be conducted through a secure barrier to limit potential for transmission of, and exposure to, COVID-19. On that same day, WCC Health Services developed and delivered information sessions about the virus to all individuals incarcerated at the facility.
- The WCC began providing all individuals incarcerated at the facility with free daily telephone calls on March 17, 2020, to support the maintenance of personal connections with family and friends.
- The WCC reinstated secure personal visits with members of the public on May 12, 2020.
- Full outlines of all the precautionary measures taken by the Corrections Branch were published via memorandums at Yukon.ca in March, April and May of 2020.
- As a result of an increase in active COVID-19 cases in Whitehorse and British Columbia, the WCC mandated on October 27, 2020, that all employees returning to Yukon from British Columbia were required to wear a mask while inside the correctional centre for 14 days, commencing on the date on which they returned to the territory.
- Furthermore, staff working in the Arrest Processing Unit, Admissions and Discharge Unit, or a unit in which inmates were under medical observation, were also directed on October 27, 2020, to wear surgical masks, eye protection and gloves when in direct contact with clients.
- COVID-19 vaccinations were offered and administered to inmates and staff at the WCC who wanted the vaccine on January 21, 2021. In total, 14 inmates received the vaccine.

## **Inmate with baby**

- For privacy reasons, we will not comment on an individual or their personal circumstances.
- Generally, Yukon Corrections provides individualized care plans for all Whitehorse Correctional Centre clients.
- Individualized care plans are dynamic and are updated as the needs of the individual evolve.
- Individualized care plans are developed with input from the client, and are created to meet the individual's specific needs, including the need for specialized health or behavioural supports.
- Personal visitation at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre was suspended on March 24, 2020, due to the risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.
- On May 12, 2020, the Whitehorse Correctional Centre reinstated personal visits with members of the public.
- Yukon Corrections reviews its approach daily with recognition of the importance of personal visits alongside the need to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19 in the correctional centre.

<b>Media Request</b>	
<b>Department Communications</b>	
Date and Time of Request:	Monday, February 8, 2021 10:12 AM
Media Outlet:	APTN Yukon
Reporter:	Sara Connors
Format of Request:	Email
Summary of Request:	“75% of Yukoners are expected to come out and get their vaccine, but 25% most likely will not. We’re trying to figure out some reasons why the 25% will not be getting vaccinated. We’re hoping to do a brief interview with Ms. Monteiro about how only 14 clients of the WCC decided to get vaccinated out of 43. Don’t have to get into specifics, if she can just sum up that there was just a low turnout that would be great.”
Request provided in writing and is attached	No
Proposed Format and Content of Response (note if messaging is attached):	<u>Email response</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID-19 vaccinations were offered at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre and administered to clients and staff who wanted the vaccine on January 21, 2021.</li> <li>• In total, 14 clients received the vaccine.</li> <li>• The number of clients in custody at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre on January 21, 2021 was 43.</li> <li>• It is unfortunate that more inmates did not participate in the volunteer immunization clinic. We plan to provide additional educational information regarding the vaccine prior to the next clinic.</li> <li>• Receiving the vaccine will always remain at the discretion of the client.</li> <li>• The office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Yukon Communicable Disease Centre will determine when the next clinic will occur at the correctional centre.</li> </ul>
Deadline for Response:	As soon as possible
<b>Cabinet Communications</b>	
Reviewer:	
Date and Time of Review:	
Comments:	



## **Media request – COVID-19 information regarding correctional facilities in Yukon**

- The Department of Justice continues to follow the expertise and recommendations of Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health in response to COVID-19.
- The Whitehorse Correctional Centre (WCC) is Yukon's only adult correctional institution. It is a 151-bed facility that houses adults (men and women) who may be remanded and/or sentenced to territorial custody.
- Given that WCC houses individuals on remand, one individual may have been admitted to custody more than once during the review period in question.
- The count at the WCC on May 17, 2021 is 53 inmates.
- As of May 17, 2021, no inmates have tested positive for COVID-19 while in custody at WCC.
- As of May 17, 2021, there have been zero deaths related to COVID-19 at the WCC.
- Doses of the Moderna vaccine were administered at the WCC based upon the number of inmates who signed up to be vaccinated. All inmates incarcerated on designated vaccine clinic days at WCC, and who had indicated an interest in receiving the vaccine, were provided the opportunity to receive the vaccine.
- As of May 17, 2021 36 first dose vaccinations of the Moderna vaccine were administered to inmates at the WCC. This does not include inmates who may have received their first dose outside of the WCC prior to entering custody. To date, 30 second dose vaccinations of the Moderna vaccine were administered to inmates incarcerated at the WCC.
- Specific numbers for declined vaccinations were not tracked but concerted efforts were made by Yukon's Corrections Branch to educate inmates on the benefits of the vaccine and encourage voluntary participation in the vaccination clinics at the correctional centre.
- Yukon's Corrections Branch does not track data pertaining to staff vaccinations. In recognition of the heightened risk of COVID-19 within correctional facilities, and to support client vaccine uptake, WCC staff who were interested in getting vaccinated were provided the opportunity to participate in vaccination clinics taking place at the correctional institution.
- Vaccinations at the WCC commenced on January 21, 2021.
- Information leaflets specific to the Moderna vaccine were authored by the Yukon Communicable Disease Control (YCDC) and Yukon Community Nursing. These materials were available to all inmates pre- and post-vaccination. The same educational materials available to the Yukon public were also used at the WCC.
- Yukon's Corrections Branch has not yet defined a vaccination threshold for the WCC. Inmate access to services and supports, including daily operational

precautions put in place as a result of COVID-19, continue to balance the risk of exposure and spread of COVID-19 within the correctional centre with the delivery of humane correctional operations. Further consultation with the YCDC is required to determine the most appropriate threshold in order for the correctional facility to fully resume pre-COVID daily operations.

- Yukon's Corrections Branch has not yet determined a target date for lifting sanitary restrictions related to COVID-19 at the WCC. This decision requires further consultation with stakeholders, such as YCDC, and will be dependent on several factors, including, but not limited to, community vaccinations and current active cases in the territory. Professional visits within the correctional centre continued throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Personal visits resumed on May 12, 2020.
- COVID-19 vaccinations are administered by Yukon Community Nursing through the Department of Health and Social Services, in collaboration with YCDC. A clinic is held monthly on site at the WCC.
- For further information on measures taken by in response to COVID-19, please see the March 2021 update [here](#), the April 2021 update [here](#), and the May 2021 update [here](#).

Media Request	
Department Communications	
Date and Time of Request:	Thursday, May 13, 2021 10:52 AM
Media Outlet:	Radio Canada National
Reporter:	Valerie Ouellet
Format of Request:	Email
Summary of Request:	<p>"I reached out to your department to obtain COVID cases in provincial correctional facilities for <a href="#">a national CBC News story which aired in June 2020</a>. I now have a few questions on vaccination roll-out.</p> <p>Daily vaccination rates per institution are already proactively released by <a href="#">Correctional Service Canada</a> and <a href="#">by the government of Quebec</a>, I am looking to add your province's figures for a national outlook of Canada's vaccination process behind bars.</p> <p>Can you please tell me, for each correctional institution under your authority as of May 10th, 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How many inmates are incarcerated in each institution as of today (snapshot May 10th)?</li> <li>• How many inmates tested positive to COVID in each institution as of today (cumulative)?</li> <li>• How many inmate deaths related to Covid were reported in each institution as of May 10th?</li> <li>• How many total doses of vaccines were received in each institution as of today (May 10)?</li> <li>• How many total inmates received at least 1 dose of a vaccine as of today (May 10th)?</li> <li>• How many total inmates received 2 doses of the vaccine as of today (May 10th)?</li> <li>• How many inmates refused or declined to be vaccinated in each institution as of today?</li> <li>• How many staff members have been vaccinated in each institution as of today (if available)?</li> </ul> <p>For additional context, can you please specify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When did your department begin vaccinating inmates (exact date if applicable)? If your department has not started its vaccination, please provide a target date.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What information is given to inmates regarding the risks of vaccination and post-vaccination symptoms? If possible, please provide a copy of documentation shared.</li> <li>• Does your department have a vaccination threshold (%) for each institution?</li> <li>• Does your department have or a target date at which you intend/hope to lift the majority of sanitary restrictions related to COVID in all facilities, such as resuming visits?</li> <li>• Which authority is in charge of distributing doses and coordinating vaccination (ex: public health unit, your department, ministry of health)? Please explain how vaccines are allotted.”</li> </ul>
Request provided in writing and is attached	No
Proposed Format and Content of Response (note if messaging is attached):	<p>Email response.</p> <p><b><u>Messaging</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Department of Justice continues to follow the expertise and recommendations of Yukon’s Chief Medical Officer of Health in response to COVID-19.</li> <li>• The Whitehorse Correctional Centre (WCC) is Yukon’s only adult correctional institution. It is a 151-bed facility that houses adults (men and women) who may be remanded and/or sentenced to territorial custody.</li> <li>• Given that WCC houses individuals on remand, one individual may have been admitted to custody more than once during the review period in question.</li> <li>• There are a total of 42 inmates incarcerated at WCC on June 7, 2021. As of June 7, 2021, no inmates have tested positive for COVID-19 while in custody at WCC.</li> <li>• As of June 7, 2021, there have been zero deaths related to COVID-19 at WCC.</li> <li>• Doses of the vaccine were administered at WCC based upon the number of inmates who signed up to be vaccinated. All inmates incarcerated on designated vaccine clinic days at WCC who had indicated an interest in receiving the vaccine were provided the opportunity to receive the vaccine.</li> <li>• As of June 7, 2021, 36 first dose vaccinations of the vaccine were administered to inmates at WCC. This does not include inmates who may have received their first</li> </ul>

dose outside of the WCC prior to entering custody. To date, 30 second dose vaccinations of the vaccine were administered to inmates incarcerated at the WCC.

- Specific numbers for declined vaccinations were not tracked but concerted efforts were made by Yukon Corrections to educate inmates on the benefits of the vaccine and to encourage voluntary participation in the vaccination clinics at the correctional centre.
- Yukon Corrections does not track data pertaining to staff vaccinations. In recognition of the heightened risk of COVID-19 within correctional facilities, and to support client vaccine uptake, WCC staff who were interested in getting vaccinated were provided the opportunity to participate in vaccination clinics taking place at the correctional institution.
- Vaccinations at the WCC commenced on January 21, 2021.
- Information leaflets specific to the vaccine were authored by the Yukon Communicable Disease Control (YCDC) and Yukon Community Nursing. These materials were available to all inmates pre- and post-vaccination. The same educational materials available to the Yukon public were also used at WCC.
- Yukon Corrections has not yet defined a vaccination threshold for WCC. Inmate access to services and supports, including daily operational precautions put in place as a result of COVID-19, continue to balance the risk of exposure and spread of COVID-19 within the correctional centre with the delivery of humane correctional operations. Yukon Corrections has not yet determined a target date for lifting restrictions related to COVID-19 at WCC. This decision requires further consultation with stakeholders, such as YCDC, and will be dependent on several factors, including, but not limited to, community vaccinations and current active cases in the territory. Professional visits within the correctional centre continued throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Personal visits resumed on May 12, 2020.
- COVID-19 vaccinations are administered by Yukon Community Nursing through the Department of Health and Social Services, in collaboration with YCDC. A clinic is held monthly on site at WCC.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For further information on measures taken by in response to COVID-19, please see the March 2021 update <a href="#">here</a>, the April 2021 update <a href="#">here</a>, and the May 2021 update <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul>
Deadline for Response:	Monday, June 7 end of day
<b>Cabinet Communications</b>	
Reviewer:	
Date and Time of Review:	
Comments:	



## MEMO

**Date:** 2021-02-18

**To:** All WCC Staff, Contractors, Volunteers, and Justice Staff Partners who conduct business at or out of WCC

**RE: COVID-19 Vaccination – Upcoming WCC Clinic **\*\*IMPORTANT UPDATE\*\*****

This memo is a follow-up to my previous memo sent on February 12, 2021, entitled "COVID-19 Vaccination – Upcoming Dose #2 Clinic & Possible Future COVID-19 Clinics".

I am very pleased to announce that there has been a change in the COVID-19 vaccine supply for Yukon. As such, YCDC now has sufficient vaccine supply to open the planned February 24, 2021 COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic at WCC to **any and all WCC Inmates, Staff, Officer's, Contractors, Volunteers, & Department of Justice Partners who conduct business at or out of WCC**. Dose 1 will be offered to those who are previously unvaccinated, and Dose 2 will be offered to those who have already received Dose 1.

YCDC will be at WCC on **February 24, 2021** between **0900** and **1630** to offer you your vaccine. The vaccination clinic will take place in the Gathering Space/ Room. In order to streamline the process, I have implemented an appointment based system. Walk-In's will still be accepted, however you may need to wait. 10 minute appointments are available (on the 10's) starting at 0900 (first) and ending at 1630 (last). **Please e-mail me 2 preferred time slots** (eg: 0920 & 1040), and I will reply to you with your appointment time. If you have already booked an appointment, there is no need to contact me again as your appointment time is secured already.

For those of you who have already received Dose 1, please bring your COVID-19 vaccination card/ record with you to your Dose 2 appointment. If you have not yet picked up your vaccination card, it will be waiting for you at the clinic on February 24, 2021.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Sibold", written over a large, light-colored scribble or background mark.

William Sibold RN, MN  
Supervisor, Health Services - WCC



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** All WCC Officer's, Staff, Contractors, & Volunteers

**Date:** March 1, 2021

**Re: WCC COVID-19 Vaccination – Dose 2 (Officer's, Staff, Contractors, Volunteers)**

This MEMO is to clarify the process for all WCC Officer's, Staff, Contractors, & Volunteers requiring Dose 2 of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccination, which is due 28-35 days after Dose 1.

As you know, YCDC was at WCC on February 24, 2021 administering COVID-19 vaccinations, many of which were Dose 1 vaccinations. YCDC **will not** be returning to WCC to give you Dose 2 of the vaccination. This is because COVID-19 vaccination clinics are now open to all eligible Yukon Residents (18+) and all YCDC resources and staff are needed to successfully operate these public clinics.

Therefore, you will need to access the YCDC Public COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic(s) to receive dose 2 of your vaccine **28-35 days after** dose 1 (between March 24 and 31, 2021). You can contact 811 to book your appointment, or you can book online by visiting [yukon.ca/this-is-our-shot](http://yukon.ca/this-is-our-shot). Please note that booking for March 24-31, 2021 has not yet opened, but will shortly.

When you attend your Dose 2 appointment, try to remember to bring your official vaccination record (vaccine card) for updating. This card is very valuable, so please do not lose it! I recommend taking a picture with your phone or keeping a photocopy in a safe place. It is possible this record/ card will be required for travel and border crossing purposes in the coming months.

COVID-19 Vaccination Dose 2 arrangements for Inmates are still in the works, and more information will be shared as it becomes available.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Sibold", written over a large, light-colored scribble or background mark.

William Sibold RN, MN  
Supervisor, Health Services – WCC

# COVID-19 Vaccine Information

## Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine (*mRNA-1273 SARS-CoV-2 vaccine*)

**Please read this information sheet carefully and ensure all your questions have been answered by a health-care provider before receiving the vaccine.**

The Moderna vaccine was authorized for use by Health Canada under an [Interim Order](#) on December 23, 2020. An Interim Order allows more rapid authorization of the vaccine to respond to a public health emergency, while following all requirements to ensure the health and safety of Canadians.

### What is COVID-19?

- COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by a new coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). COVID-19 was recognized for the first time in December 2019 and has since spread around the world, causing a global pandemic. The virus that causes COVID-19 is mainly passed from an infected person to others when the infected person coughs, sneezes, sings, talks or breathes. It is important to note that infected people can spread the infection even if they have no symptoms.
- [Symptoms of COVID-19](#) can include cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, tiredness and loss of smell or taste. Some people infected with the virus have no symptoms at all, while others have symptoms that range from mild to severe.
- [Of people diagnosed with COVID-19 in Canada](#), about 1 in 13 require hospitalization, and about 3 out of every 100 die. Even people with mild symptoms may feel unwell for a long time after a COVID-19 infection.
- In a large study where people were given 2 doses of the vaccine, the vaccine was shown to work very well at preventing people from becoming sick with COVID-19. The immunized group of people was much less likely (94.1% less likely) to become sick with COVID-19 in the weeks after receiving the second vaccination compared to the group that did not receive the vaccine.

### Who can and cannot receive the COVID-19 vaccine at this time?

- If you have any [symptoms that could be due to COVID-19](#), you should not go out to get vaccinated because you could spread the infection to others. Talk with your health-care provider, or call 811 about your symptoms and getting a COVID-19 test. Your health-care provider will advise you if and when you are able to receive the vaccine.

**See the table** on the next 2 pages for information about who can and who should not receive the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

### How does the Moderna vaccine protect against COVID-19?

- The vaccine causes our body to produce protection (such as antibodies) to help keep us from becoming sick if we are exposed to the COVID-19 virus. The vaccine uses a new method called messenger RNA (mRNA) to help our body protect itself from the virus.

	<p><b>Column 1 CAN RECEIVE</b> the COVID-19 Vaccine</p> <p>People in Column 1 can receive the COVID-19 vaccine, unless they are also in Column 2 or 3</p>	<p><b>Column 2 SHOULD NOT ROUTINELY RECEIVE</b> the COVID-19 Vaccine</p> <p>The vaccine has not been studied well enough in these people. People in Column 2 may be offered the vaccine if the benefits outweigh the risks. Those who are at high risk of exposure to COVID-19 infection and/or of <a href="#">developing severe disease</a> should discuss these risks with their health-care provider to make a decision about vaccination.</p>	<p><b>Column 3 SHOULD NOT RECEIVE</b> the COVID-19 Vaccine</p> <p>The vaccine should not be received by people in Column 3</p>
<b>Age</b>	18 years of age and older.		17 years of age and younger.
<b>Feeling unwell with symptoms that could be COVID-19</b>			You should not be vaccinated if you have any <a href="#">symptoms that could be due to COVID-19</a> so that you do not spread infection to others.
<b>Have or had a COVID-19 infection</b>	You can be vaccinated if you are no longer infectious and are feeling better from a COVID-19 infection.		You should not be vaccinated while infectious or if you still feel unwell from a recent COVID-19 infection, so that you do not spread infection to others.
<b>Pregnancy</b>		Currently pregnant or planning to become pregnant before receiving both doses of COVID-19 vaccine.	
<b>Breastfeeding</b>		Currently breastfeeding.	
<p><b>Allergy to polyethylene glycol (PEG)*</b></p> <p>Talk with your health-care provider if you are known to be allergic to polyethylene glycol or have had an allergic reaction from an unknown cause. <b>See below for more details.</b></p>			If you have been told you are allergic to polyethylene glycol (PEG)* or have had an allergic reaction from an unknown cause, you should not be vaccinated until it is determined to be safe by an allergist or other health-care provider.

	<p><b>Column 1 CAN RECEIVE</b> the COVID-19 Vaccine</p> <p>People in Column 1 can receive the COVID-19 vaccine, unless they are also in Column 2 or 3</p>	<p><b>Column 2 SHOULD NOT ROUTINELY RECEIVE</b> the COVID-19 Vaccine</p> <p>The vaccine has not been studied well enough in these people. People in Column 2 may be offered the vaccine if the benefits outweigh the risks. Those who are at high risk of exposure to COVID-19 infection and/or of <a href="#">developing severe disease</a> should discuss these risks with their health-care provider to make a decision about vaccination.</p>	<p><b>Column 3 SHOULD NOT RECEIVE</b> the COVID-19 Vaccine</p> <p>The vaccine should not be received by people in Column 3</p>
<p><b>You had a severe reaction to a previous dose of COVID-19 vaccine, including an allergic reaction</b></p>			<p>If you had a serious or allergic reaction to a previous dose of COVID-19 vaccine, you should not be vaccinated until it is determined to be safe by an allergist or other health-care provider.</p>
<p><b>Medical conditions</b> Talk with the health-care provider if you are unsure about your medical conditions</p>		<p>Problems with your immune system from disease or treatment. Autoimmune conditions.</p>	
<p><b>You received another vaccine in the past 14 days (not a COVID-19 vaccine)</b></p>			<p>If you received another vaccine (not a COVID-19 vaccine) in the past 14 days, it is best to wait 2 weeks from that last vaccine to receive your COVID-19 vaccine.</p>

**In addition to the information in Table 1, tell the health-care provider if:**

- **You have fainted or felt faint after receiving past vaccines or medical procedures.**  
Your health-care provider may recommend that you receive the vaccine lying down to prevent fainting.
- **You have a bleeding disorder or are taking medication that could affect blood clotting.**  
This information will help the health-care provider prevent bleeding or bruising from the needle.

\* **Polyethylene glycol (PEG)** can rarely cause allergic reactions and is found in products such as medications, bowel preparation products for colonoscopy, laxatives, cough syrups, cosmetics, skin creams, medical products used on the skin and during operations, toothpaste, contact lenses and contact lens solution. PEG also can be found in foods or drinks, but is not known to cause allergic reactions from foods or drinks.

## How is the vaccine administered?

The vaccine is given as a needle in the upper arm. You will need two doses, given 28 days apart.

## What are the risks of the vaccine?

In a large study, half of the people who received the Moderna vaccine were monitored for at least two months and no serious side effects have been found to date. People who have received the vaccine in studies continue to be monitored for any longer-term side effects.

Side effects can develop within a day or two after receiving the vaccine. Although these side effects are not serious to your health, they may make you feel unwell for about one to three days; they will go away on their own. These types of side effects are expected and can indicate the vaccine is working to produce protection.

In the study, side effects included one or more of the following:

- pain, redness or swelling where the needle was given
- tiredness
- headache
- muscle pain
- joint pain
- nausea / vomiting
- chills
- fever
- enlarged lymph nodes (swollen glands) in the underarm

Allergic reactions can rarely occur after receiving a vaccine. Symptoms of an allergic reaction include hives (bumps on the skin that are often very itchy), swelling of your face, tongue or throat, or difficulty breathing. The clinic staff are prepared to manage an allergic reaction should it occur. Seek immediate medical care if you develop any of these symptoms.

**It is important to note that you cannot get COVID-19 infection from the vaccine.**

## What measures have been put in place to safely provide immunizations during COVID-19?

Health-care providers are being very careful to prevent the spread of COVID-19 when offering immunizations. Examples of extra safety measures include the following:

- You will be asked about [any COVID-19 symptoms](#) when you arrive at the clinic. People with symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend the clinic.
- You will be asked to wear a mask while at the clinic, as well as to clean your hands, and to stay at least 2 metres (6 feet) from others (except those you live with).
- The staff will also be wearing personal protective equipment and will be cleaning their hands before and after each client.
- Other measures may also be put in place in clinics. Be sure to read and follow any signs or instructions provided.

## What should I do before coming to the clinic?

- Wear a short-sleeve shirt or top with sleeves that are easy to roll up.
- To prevent feeling faint while being vaccinated, have something to eat before coming to the clinic.
- Bring your mask.
- Bring any identification required by the clinic, such as your health card.
- Bring your immunization record with you and/or download the [CANImmunize app](#) to keep track of this and other vaccines.
- You will be provided with a paper COVID-19 Immunization Record.

## What should I do after receiving the vaccine?

You will be asked to **wait at least 15 minutes** after receiving the vaccine to be sure you are feeling well. Longer waiting times of 30 minutes may be recommended if there is concern about a possible vaccine allergy. You may be asked by the health-care provider to wait in the clinic, or if an adult is with you and you have a warm, dry place to wait

(such as in your vehicle), you may be asked to wait outside of the clinic. Inform a health-care provider right away if you feel unwell while waiting. You should not leave the clinic (or clinic parking lot) for at least 15 to 30 minutes after receiving your vaccine, based on the recommendation of the health-care provider.

**One you leave the clinic, call 9-1-1 right away if you develop any serious symptoms or symptoms of an allergic reaction** such as: hives (bumps on the skin that are often very itchy); swelling of your face, tongue or throat; or difficulty breathing. Inform your health-care provider of any concerning side effects after receiving the vaccine.

**Continue to follow Yukon’s “Safe 6 +1” recommendations** to prevent spread of COVID-19, which may include wearing a mask, staying at least two metres from others and limiting and avoiding contact with others outside your household.

**Do not receive any other vaccines (except for your second COVID-19 vaccine)** until you have received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and at least 28 days have passed after the second dose (unless considered necessary by your health-care provider).

**If you are planning to become pregnant**, delay this until at least 28 days have passed after the second dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

**Keep your COVID-19 immunization record** in a safe place.

## When should I return for my second dose?

**Please return for your second dose of the Moderna vaccine in 28 days.** For the second dose there is a window of 25 days to 35 days (if you are not able to return on day 28). This is very important to ensure the vaccine is most effective. You may be asked to book an appointment to receive the second dose.

Bring your COVID-19 Immunization Record with you when you come for your second dose. This will be given to you when you receive your first dose. It is your personal COVID vaccine immunization record.

