

## **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 30, 2022

# **Get boosted before the holidays: More COVID-19 vaccination appointments available at community clinics**

Algoma Public Health, Sault Area Hospital, Group Health Centre, and Superior Family Health Team, as part of the Algoma Ontario Health Team, are working together to create more opportunities for Algoma residents to get their COVID-19 booster dose before the holidays and stay up to date on their COVID-19 vaccine series. Protection from your last dose of the COVID-19 vaccine decreases over time. A booster dose increases the defences of your immune system by restoring protection and reducing your risk of severe illness or hospitalization from COVID-19.

“Getting vaccinated is an important and effective layer of protection that can protect you from severe illness,” said Dr. John Tuinema, Acting Medical Officer of Health at Algoma Public Health. “It can take up to two weeks after vaccination before your immune system develops the full benefit from your booster dose. Booking an appointment as soon as you are eligible will help build that protection before the holidays.”

If it has been at least six months since your last COVID-19 vaccine, you are eligible to receive a COVID-19 booster dose.

### **Book an appointment at a Community Immunization Clinic**

Algoma Public Health, Sault Area Hospital, Group Health Centre and Superior Family Health Team, as part of the Algoma Ontario Health Team will be hosting two COVID-19 immunization clinics at the Algoma Public Health – Sault Ste. Marie office at 294 Willow Ave; for anyone aged five and older. Over 1000 appointments have been made available.

#### **Clinic Dates:**

- Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

#### **Book an appointment:**

- **Phone:** 705-541-7370 or 1-888-440-3730. Phone lines will be open Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.
- **Online:** Visit [Vaccine Clinics in Algoma](#) to make an appointment

### **Book a booster dose appointment at the Sault Ste. Marie COVID-19 Assessment Centre**

The Sault Ste. Marie COVID-19 Assessment Centre, in partnership with Sault Area Hospital, located at 165 Drive in Road is offering drive-up COVID-19 booster doses, to boost protection before the holidays.

Appointments are available on November 29 & 30, and December 1, 6-8, 10, 12-17 and 19-21. Clinics will run from 10:30 am – 6:50 pm and are available for individuals aged 12 and older. Visit the [COVID-19 Assessment Centre](#) website for more information.

To book an appointment, you must call 705-759-3434 ext. 7152.

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