



April 2, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian/Representative or Student

Re: Measles Immunization Catch-up Program

The province is starting a measles immunization catch-up program. This program will run from April through June 2019 for children in kindergarten to grade 12 who are not up-to-date for measles vaccinations. This will help to protect all children against measles disease.

Vaccines are safe and effective. Immunizing your child is the best way to protect them against many diseases.

Children should get two doses of the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine. This offers your child the best protection against measles.

If your child has a record of two doses of the MMR vaccine, they are up-to-date for measles protection. You will only get a consent package if your child is not up-to-date.

Kindergarten Students:

- Kindergarten students will continue to be immunized at health centres. You can find your local health centre at <https://immunizebc.ca/finder>.
- If your child has not received two doses of measles-containing vaccine, you will receive an automated telephone reminder to call your health centre to book an appointment.

Students in Grades 1-12:

- One dose of MMR vaccine will be offered through school-based clinics to students who require a first or second dose of MMR vaccine.
- You will receive a consent package via the school in the coming weeks if your child requires a first or second dose of MMR vaccine.

If you receive a consent package but feel that your child has had two doses of a measles-containing vaccine, please give a copy of their immunization record to your local health centre. Visit <https://immunizebc.ca/tips-locating-immunization-records> for tips to locate immunization records.

If your child is getting their first MMR vaccine through the school-based clinics they can get their second dose of MMR through your local public health centre. You will receive an automated telephone reminder to call the health centre to book an appointment.

Additional Resources:

If you have any further questions or for more information refer to:

- Your local public health centre or your family physician
- www.interiorhealth.ca
- [Measles HealthLinkBC File](#) for more information about measles disease.
- www.immunizebc.ca to learn about the MMR vaccine and safety
- <https://kidsboostimmunity.com/> to learn about the MMR vaccine and earn vaccines for kids in developing countries. This website also provides free resources and curriculum materials to teachers

Regards,



Silvina Mema, MD MSc FRCPC
Medical Health Officer



Issy Aguiar
Manager, Communicable Disease
Prevention & Immunization Program

Bus: 250-980-4808
Mobile: 250-212-5236
Email: issy.aguiar@interiorhealth.ca
Web: www.interiorhealth.ca

INTERIOR HEALTH
Population Health Services
505 Doyle Ave
Kelowna, BC, V1Y 0C5