

May 31, 2021

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Dear Teacher

RE: COVID-19 outreach: Invitation to generate questions and concerns from students re vaccines for Acting Medical Officer of Health Dr. Corneil to address

Youth aged 12 and over across Ontario are now eligible to schedule a COVID-19 vaccine appointment through the provincial booking system, Timiskaming Health Unit (THU) call centre, or at select pharmacies administering the Pfizer vaccine. To book an appointment online, these individuals must be 12 years old by the date of their appointment.

The Pfizer vaccine is the only COVID-19 vaccine that has been authorized by Health Canada for use in individuals aged 12 and over. The province is also encouraging eligible family members who have not received a vaccine to attend these clinics to get youth and their families vaccinated as quickly as possible.

We would like to address and answer any questions or concerns the students may have around COVID-19 vaccines. Classrooms (teachers) able to help with this outreach are asked to give/ allow some classroom time for the students to submit up to three (3) questions they have using the Survey Monkey link provided by the health unit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SLFVXSW> by June 4 if possible.

To help, we have provided a sample lesson plan with accompanying resources if you wish to use them. Additionally, we have prepared a letter for families to support inclusivity and vaccine fact awareness.

Students are encouraged to ask any questions or share anything they have heard on social media. All questions are good questions to ask THU! Timiskaming's Acting Medical Officer of Health Dr. Glenn Corneil will answer select questions via a video that will be shared back to schools, on social media and on THU's website.

Thank you for all your support and patience during this challenging time. Please remember the COVID-19 vaccine is part of our path back to normal.

Sincerely,

Amanda Mongeon
Manager, Community and School Health