



Protect your future. Get immunized!

National Immunization Awareness Month takes place throughout the month of August.

#VaccinesWork #ProtectYourFuture #GetImmunized #NIAM2024

31 July 2024, OTTAWA, ON — Immunize Canada and Vaccine Ambassadors (US) have collaborated across the border to highlight the importance of immunizations across the lifespan. This National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM), our theme – *Protect your future. Get immunized!* – will shed light on the importance of staying up to date on recommended vaccinations so that everyone can have the chance to live healthier lives protected against preventable diseases.

Some people may think that vaccines are just for kids – but, in fact, immunizations are needed throughout the lifespan. Or they might not realize that they need to get caught up on their vaccines. Vaccine recommendations are updated over time as new evidence and findings come forward, and as new vaccines become available; this can sometimes make it difficult for people to know which vaccines they need and which vaccines they are eligible for. As people’s health may change over time, they may be eligible to receive additional vaccines to protect them.

Each week of National Immunization Awareness Month features messaging for a specific population group. Week 1 focuses on immunizations recommended during pregnancy, with Week 2 providing information about immunizations for children, adolescents, and young adults. In Week 3, special populations – including people who are chronically ill or immune-compromised – are reminded of the benefits of immunization, and Week 4 reminds adults of all ages to stay up to date on immunizations to protect their health through the years.

“Immunization is the strongest defense against preventable diseases,” says Dr. Anne Pham-Huy, Chair of Immunize Canada. “It is more important than ever to keep your, and your family’s, immunizations up to date. Delaying or missing vaccines could leave your child, your family, and your communities vulnerable to infectious diseases.”

Immunize Canada and Vaccine Ambassadors encourage you to speak with your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or local public health office about the immunizations you and your family need to protect your future and stay healthy.

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For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact:

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- Immunize Canada | immunize.ca | <https://www.instagram.com/immunize.ca/>
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- Canadian Public Health Association | <https://www.cpha.ca>

About Immunize Canada | <https://immunize.ca> | Immunize Canada is a national coalition of non-governmental, professional, health, government and private sector organizations with a specific interest in promoting the understanding and use of vaccines recommended by the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI).

About Vaccine Ambassadors | <https://vaccineambassadors.org> | Vaccine Ambassadors’ vision is a world where *every* person has access to life-saving vaccines regardless of income or country of residence. Its mission is working with partners to achieve equitable access and uptake of life-saving vaccines for everyone—one vaccine at a time, one community at a time.