



News Release

Let's celebrate the success of vaccines!

April 21, 2017 (OTTAWA) – During National Immunization Awareness Week (NIAW), April 22 to 29, Immunize Canada invites Canadians to celebrate the success of vaccines in Canada! Immunizations are safe and effective – and they keep individuals and communities healthy by preventing the spread of disease.

Dr. Shelly McNeil, Chair of Immunize Canada, says that “immunization at all ages is the most cost-effective public health approach to decreasing vaccine-preventable diseases in the Canadian population. Vaccines work to prevent disease in individuals, families, and communities.”

“But the success of vaccines is threatened by outbreaks,” says Dr. Nicole Le Saux, Vice-Chair of Immunize Canada. “In the past few years, Canada has seen outbreaks of measles, mumps, and whooping cough. We need to get back to high immunization rates – and keep them high – in order to stop the spread of these infectious diseases.”

Parents of young children know that the best way to protect their children’s health is to have them immunized on schedule. But immunization is not just for kids! Adults need to stay up to date on their immunizations for their own health and for the health of those around them – such as babies and young children who are not yet fully immunized.

Everyone in Canada can contribute to the success of immunization. To learn more, and to find reliable information on immunization for all ages, visit **immunize.ca**.

Quick Facts

- National Immunization Awareness Week (NIAW) is an annual event. This year it takes place from April 22 to 29, 2017.
- Immunize Canada is a national coalition of organizations with the overall aim of increasing awareness about the benefits of immunization and promoting the understanding and use of vaccines as recommended by the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI).

Links

Immunize Canada	https://immunize.ca	@Immunizedotca
Canadian Public Health Association	http://www.cpha.ca	@CPHA_ACSP
Public Health Agency of Canada		@PHAC_GC
https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/topics/immunization-vaccines.html		@HealthyCdns

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