



MAY 25 2021

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Their Worship Darryl Walker
Mayor of the City of White Rock
Via email: dwalker@whiterockcity.ca

Dear Mayor Darryl Walker:

Thank you for your email of April 30, 2021, regarding COVID-19 immunizations in British Columbia. I am responding on behalf of the Honourable John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia, and apologize for the delay in communication.

I appreciate the time you and the White Rock City Council have taken to bring your resolution to our attention. British Columbia's COVID-19 Immunization Plan is based on scientific evidence, as well as expert advice and guidance from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization, BC's Immunization Committee and BC's public health leadership committee. In BC, we remain focused on immunizing those who are most vulnerable to severe illness and death from COVID-19 and responding to outbreaks throughout the province. Through our age-based and clinically extremely vulnerable vaccine strategies, as well as targeted efforts to control outbreaks and manage "hot spots", we are aiming to protect as many people as possible and control the transmission of COVID-19 in our communities. This process is underpinned by an ethical framework which applies when vaccine supply is scarce and priority populations must be identified.

As part of BC's evolving vaccine strategy, we have shifted our focus to prioritize many communities where we have seen an increase in COVID-19 cases, outbreaks and hospitalizations. By prioritizing these high-transmission communities, we are able to protect more people, slow community transmission of COVID-19 and ensure our health system continues to have the capacity to offer the care that we need.

I am pleased to report that, in large part due to your and your teams efforts, the City of White Rock has one of the highest rates of immunization in the Province. As such, at this time, the City of White Rock has not been identified as a high-transmission area. For more information on vaccine prioritization for high-transmission neighbourhoods, please see: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/neighbourhood>.

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Any requests regarding identification as a high-transmission community may be directed to the relevant health authority for appropriate response, however, it is important to note, the age-based vaccination program continues and at this time, everyone eligible for a vaccine should be offered their first dose by mid-June 2021, subject to vaccine supply.

I understand this is not the response you were looking for, but I hope this clarifies our approach to planning. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Dix', with a large, stylized initial 'A'.

Adrian Dix
Minister

pc: Honourable John Horgan, Premier (premier@gov.bc.ca)