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October 6, 2021

Re: Third dose COVID-19 vaccine clinics in long-term care and assisted living

Dear family members and caregivers,

Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry has recently announced that third doses of COVID-19 vaccines will be offered to residents and tenants of long-term care and assisted living facilities in British Columbia.

Fraser Health will begin working with care facilities this week, and expect the clinics to run throughout the month of October. You will receive the clinic schedule for your family member's facility soon.

If your family member received two doses, the care facility will be seeking consent from the resident/tenant or substitute decision-maker for administration of the third dose.

We will be offering the Moderna vaccine for third doses. If your family member received the Pfizer vaccine for their first or second dose, it is safe and effective for them to receive Moderna for their third dose. You can find information about the Moderna vaccine on the <u>BCCDC website</u>.

If your family member has not had the opportunity to start the COVID-19 vaccine series and is interested in doing so, please let their care facility know as soon as possible.

Residents may be offered the seasonal flu vaccine at the same time as their third dose. Your family member can receive a third COVID-19 vaccine and a seasonal flu vaccine at the same time with no ill effects.

For general information about COVID-19 vaccines, please visit the BCCDC website.

Thank you,

Suzanne Fox, Executive Director

Integrated Long-Term Care & Assisted Living Services

