

ISANS Statement on the COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign

Vaccines are vital to our public health. At ISANS, we continue to work and support our government to create healthy communities that are safe from COVID-19. To prevent the spread, our communities must be vaccinated.

In the coming months, ISANS will support Canada's vaccination plan by sharing accurate information and by encouraging everyone to get vaccinated as soon as they can. We recognize and appreciate that public health authorities are working as quickly as possible to make vaccines available.

As an organization:

- We support the vaccination plan approved by Health Canada and our provincial health authority. Canada's vaccines are safe and effective. We encourage everyone to get a vaccine as soon as they can.
- We will work with public health and government officials by sharing the latest information on COVID-19 vaccines and by helping staff and clients get vaccinated as soon as they can.
- We support clear, accurate, and efficient communication around COVID-19 vaccines and vaccination efforts and will work to make this information accessible to the newcomer community in Nova Scotia.

ISANS COVID-19 Vaccine Policy

At the March ISANS Staff Meeting, the following COVID-19 Vaccine Policy was introduced to support staff members to receive their COVID-19 vaccine when they become eligible. If you have questions regarding the policy, please speak with your supervisor or manager.

Purpose

ISANS' has a duty to provide and maintain a safe and healthy workplace by taking all reasonable precautions. We are adopting this policy to safeguard the health of our employees and their families; our clients and visitors; and the community at large from infectious diseases, such as COVID-19, that may be reduced by vaccinations. This policy will comply with all applicable laws and is based on guidance from the local health authorities, as applicable.

Scope

All employees are encouraged to schedule their vaccinations as soon as they become eligible and the vaccine is available.

Procedures

- ISANS will make efforts to provide up-to-date information to help facilitate the process of staff becoming vaccinated.

- Employees will be provided with paid leave (up to a maximum of 3 hours, on an as needed basis) for each dose of the vaccine with immediate supervisor or manager approval and proof of a vaccination appointment.
- Employees are required to work with their immediate supervisor or manager to manage their time off for vaccination appointments, recognizing that we want to prioritize vaccination for eligible employees and the second dose must be delivered within the recommended timeframe.
- Employees, both vaccinated and unvaccinated, must still follow all current ISANS' safety protocols in accordance with public health guidance as specified including; checking in at reception, using hand sanitizer upon entering, practicing social distancing, wearing a mask in designated areas or when not able to practice social distancing, and not attending the office when experiencing symptoms.

March 26, 2021