

A Back to School message from the School Immunization Program

Welcome back to a brand new school year, we hope this message finds you healthy and safe. We are pleased to continue to provide immunization services to your school community as long as COVID-19 response measures allow.

When schools closed in March 2020, our school-based immunization program was unable to continue as school immunization teams were redeployed to respond to the COVID-19 crisis.

Due to this suspension in service, you will notice some changes to our program this year as we attempt to "catch-up". Grade 7 students who have an immunization consent form signed in the previous school year will be immunized in the school setting in order to complete their immunization series.

If you do not wish your child to complete their immunization series or your child was immunized privately within the past 6 months, please contact your school's designated Community Health Centre.

Visit <u>www.immunizealberta.ca</u> for more information about which vaccines are offered to students in Alberta.

During times of pandemic, such as COVID-19, we are reminded of how important it is utilize the immunizations that protect us against vaccine-preventable diseases like measles and pertussis that are still present globally and locally.

We look forward to working with our school communities again to help keep students healthy.

JT Foster's designated Community Health Centre (Public Health) is located at the Nanton Community Health Centre. A Public Health Nurse can be contacted by calling 403-646-2218.