



## For Immediate Release | July 22, 2021

## 20,000 dose milestone for Interior Health's rural and urban mobile immunization clinics

IH WIDE – Interior Health's mobile immunization clinics have administered over 20,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines throughout the region since their launch in June.

The urban immunization clinics focused on providing pop-up drop-in clinics in new areas within larger urban centres to ensure people could have easier access to vaccinations. The urban mobile clinic wrapped up last week with a celebratory 'vaxathon' in Kelowna featuring live music, WHL and NHL players.

"Reaching the 20,000 dose milestone through our mobile clinics is an important achievement to celebrate as we continue to work to increase our vaccination coverage across the interior," said Interior Health president and CEO Susan Brown. "Community support throughout Interior communities has been incredible and we want to thank each of our partners for the critical work they continue to do to make our mobile clinics a success."

Two rural mobile immunization clinics continue to travel across the Interior to more rural and hard-toreach communities. These mobile clinics utilize trailers and equipment provided to Interior Health through a partnership with the British Columbia Automobile Association (BCAA). Pacific Destinations, Vancouver Coastal Health and the BC Centre for Disease Control help plan and administer the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine on the ground in each community the clinics visit.

"This is more than 20,000 shots in arms, it's 20,000 instances of supporting the health and recovery of British Columbia and I couldn't be more proud that BCAA's mobile community response units can support such an important initiative," said Eric Hopkins, BCAA's President & CEO.

No advance appointments are necessary for the mobile clinics. People who live or work in each community can walk-up, register and receive their first COVID-19 vaccine or their second if they received their first dose more than seven weeks (49 days) ago.

## **Ongoing immunization clinics**

People can get their first or second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by dropping in to an immunization clinic or making an appointment.

To make an appointment, register online by visiting the provincial website at <u>www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/</u>, call I-833-838-2323, or visit a Service BC office listed <u>here</u>, and then book an appointment.

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For a list of all Interior Health COVID-19 immunization clinics and other resources visit: <u>https://news.interiorhealth.ca/news/covid-19-vaccines/</u>

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