

## **Public Service Announcement**

## **National Immunization Awareness Week**

Start Date: April 24, 2023 End Date: April 30, 2023

Nunavut-wide 60 sec

National Immunization Awareness Week (NIAAW) is an annual event that recognizes the importance of immunization for people of all ages. There has never been a more important time to raise awareness and confidence in vaccination safety and efficiency.

Over the last three years, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted just how important vaccines are to our collective health and our health care system. Routine vaccinations are important for everyone but are especially critical for infants and toddlers. Routine childhood vaccinations protect your child from serious illnesses and keep others safe by reducing the risk of disease spreading from person to person.

Most of your child's vaccinations are completed between birth and six years of age. Many vaccines are given more than once, at different ages and in different combinations.

As children grow, the protection they received against diseases from some of the routine childhood vaccines begins to wear off. For the protection to continue, various booster doses are required. It is important to stay up to date with immunizations during the school years into young adulthood to ensure protections remains.

To find out what immunizations are needed in childhood and adolescence to ensure protection against disease, visit the <u>Government of Nunavut</u> website or talk to your local health provider. It is also a good reminder to ensure you are up to date with the COVID-19 vaccines recommended for you, including booster doses.

## **Media Contact:**

Danarae Sommerville Communications Specialist Department of Health 867-975-5712 dsommerville1@gov.nu.ca