

**URBAN INDIGENOUS
COVID-19 IMMUNIZATION CLINICS**

Immunization clinics for Indigenous people living in urban centres, with a focus on those who may face barriers in accessing the COVID-19 vaccine in other locations, will open in late April and early May. These clinics will be managed by five community partners.

“Aboriginal Health and Wellness Centre of Winnipeg (AHWC) is providing an opportunity for everyone in our community to get vaccinated. As Indigenous leaders, we believe in the benefits of COVID-19 vaccination, and are encouraging our relatives and community members who work and live in our city to get immunized for the sake of our elders, adults, youth and children. AHWC embraces culture and promotes staying safe and expanding access. I support you and we support each other – if you are apprehensive about getting the shot, come speak to us and let us support you!” — Della Herrera, executive director, Aboriginal Health and Wellness Centre of Winnipeg.

“Creating a safe, accessible and welcoming vaccination centre for our urban Indigenous community is extremely important in protecting our future. Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre Helpers will be on site to greet and support individuals and families through this process and will also be offering community support services. We are really excited to work with our partners so we can vaccinate as many of our urban Indigenous community as possible.” — Diane Redsky, executive director, Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre Inc.

“The Portage la Prairie Community Revitalization Corporation, in partnership with the Portage Urban Indigenous Peoples Coalition, is pleased to accept this opportunity to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to our urban Indigenous citizens. The Urban Indigenous Vaccine clinic will be a space to combine modern medicine technology with traditional Indigenous teachings. This space will be welcoming to all Indigenous people within the city of Portage la Prairie and surrounding area. Pidamaya, Miigwetch.” — Victoria Espey, executive director, Portage la Prairie Community Revitalization Corporation.

“We are pleased to be a part of the delivery of a second site in our community of Brandon and in being able to offer our location of the Mahkaday Ginew Memorial Centre, located at 205 College Ave., for a safe environment to those looking to receive the vaccination to help increase the fight against COVID-19. As president of the Brandon Friendship Centre, I have already received my first dose of the vaccination through our super site at the Keystone Centre and we understand the need to open our doors for community in a good way for those looking for services that provide a cultural safe environment.” — Jason Gobeil, president, Brandon Friendship Centre.

“The Ma-Mow-We-Tak Friendship Centre is pleased to host a vaccination clinic in a location that Indigenous people already trust and attend for programs and services. Offering additional supports such as interpretation, support, guidance and assistance in a culturally sensitive location will help ease tensions and fears and provide a comfortable experience for those who might otherwise be hesitant. The Ma-Mow-We-Tak Friendship Centre encourages everyone to do their part and get vaccinated!” — Dee Chaboyer, executive director, Ma-Mow-We-Tak Friendship Centre.