

Bulletin #122: COVID-19 Information

February 25, 2021



In This Issue: COVID-19 Bulletin

[COVID-19 vaccination update](#)

[Respectful behaviour towards one another](#)

[Updated leave table – Current as of Feb. 25, 2021](#)

[ICYMI: Horizon's COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control guidelines Zoom sessions](#)

[GNB updates](#)

[Horizon dashboard data from Feb. 23](#)

COVID-19 Bulletin

[COVID-19 vaccination update](#)

GNB announced changes to New Brunswick's Vaccination Plan on Feb. 18, which includes a change to the timing of the second dose. The second dose will now be administered to those who are at lower risk of severe outcomes within 90 days, as opposed to 28 days (those who are most vulnerable will receive the second dose within 28 days).

GNB issued an [updated](#) timeline for the roll-out of vaccinations in New Brunswick.

At this time, the COVID-19 vaccine is being delivered to small sectors in the province, for individuals who fall into the designated priority groups.

Rest assured all Horizon employees will have the opportunity to be vaccinated as more doses of the vaccine become available.

The goal is to have our most vulnerable protected first – but we are still on track for all staff to have the opportunity to receive the first dose of the vaccine by late spring 2021.

We continue to work closely with the provincial vaccine task force on many fronts and be apprised of the vaccine inventory.

You may be feeling anxious to learn more and / or to receive the vaccine, but we ask that you please be patient and wait to receive the invitation (via Horizon email) with all the information necessary to register for an appointment.

We will continue to be open and transparent by updating you as new information becomes available.

Please visit the Vaccination FAQs page on [Skyline](#), which has been updated to include:

- Timeline for New Brunswick's COVID-19 Vaccination Plan ([printable version](#))

Bulletin #122: COVID-19 Information

February 25, 2021

- Information about working at vaccination clinics
- Helpful links
- PDF version of the Employee Vaccination FAQs

Respectful behaviour to one another

We are all responsible for demonstrating Horizon's values in the workplace and at no other time has the need to treat one another with *empathy, compassion, and respect* been greater than it is now.

Pandemic screeners are a vital component of Horizon's health care team and our response to COVID-19. Unfortunately, some employees and physicians have been abusive and harassing to the pandemic screeners.

These behaviours are not acceptable, will not be tolerated, and have resulted in discipline.

Please be aware that abusive behaviour towards pandemic screeners, or any Horizon employee or physician, will result in discipline, up to and including termination.

Horizon recognizes the stress experienced by our staff as the COVID-19 pandemic approaches its first anniversary. Numerous options have been shared for various ways in which you can champion your own mental health during these times.

However, it is important to appreciate that the health and well-being of our colleagues also needs to be considered.



Updated leave table – Current as of Feb. 25, 2021

Horizon continues to advocate for its employees by ensuring consistent interpretation of the collective agreements and, with this, access to appropriate leaves that may be required as a result of COVID-19.

We recognize there have been a number of updates to this table since it was first released in September 2020, and we encourage all employees to review the information carefully.

The [leave table](#) was designed to help you navigate your benefit entitlements during the pandemic. This guide shows a number of scenarios you may encounter over the next months involving yourself or your dependents and the current leave entitlements to which you may be eligible.

In cases where employees must miss time from work and a suitable alternate arrangement cannot be made, employees will need to use, in accordance with normal practice, the various leaves available to them in the applicable collective agreement or non-bargaining policy.

Horizon is sincerely appreciative of the efforts made by our dedicated employees in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you have any questions, please contact your manager or local Human Resources Advisor.

Bulletin #122: COVID-19 Information

February 25, 2021



ICYMI: Horizon's COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines Zoom sessions

This week, two panel discussions on Horizon's COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines were held with staff and physicians on Zoom.

The panel included:

- Dr. Gordon Dow, Regional Infectious Diseases Medical Director and member of the New Brunswick Pandemic Task Force
- Merita MacMillan, Regional Lead, Infection Prevention and Control
- Marilyn Babineau, Manager, Workforce Wellness

If you weren't able to attend either sessions, you're invited to watch [this](#) recorded version of Dr. Dow's introduction from Tuesday's session.

A huge **thank you** to the three panellists for their time and knowledge, and to all who attended and asked questions.

GNB updates

When available, the GNB news release can be accessed [here](#).