

## Office of the Medical Health Officer

Vancouver Coastal Health – North Shore 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 132 West Esplanade Ave. North Vancouver, BC V7M 1A2

June 10, 2019

To parents and guardians,

Update: Provincial measles immunization campaign for school age children, April to June 2019

In response to measles cases in British Columbia earlier this year, as well as outbreaks elsewhere in the world, the BC Government launched a provincial measles immunization campaign to increase protection among school age children. The campaign has been running since April and will finish at the end of June.

Two doses of the measles containing vaccine (MMR) given after 1 year of age are over 99% effective in preventing measles. Based on Vancouver Coastal records, the majority of school age children (83%) are already fully protected.

Vancouver Coastal sent out letters to those students whose immunization records are incomplete or indicate the student needs a dose of vaccine. Many families have responded to this letter, thank you for your action.

<u>Important</u>: If you received a letter and have not yet had your child immunized with MMR vaccine, we encourage you to attend a final drop-in clinic:

Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 10am-2pm West Community Health Centre, 2121 Marine Drive, West Van, Garden Room- main floor

If your child has been immunized by a family physician or at a location outside of Vancouver Coastal Health and you have not already done so, please submit a copy of their records to <a href="mailto:nsimmunizations@vch.ca">nsimmunizations@vch.ca</a> as soon as possible. If you have any questions for a public health nurse, please call 604-983-6859.

Thank you,

Mark Lysyshyn, MD, MPH, FRCPC

Medical Health Officer

Vancouver Coastal Health, North Shore