Vaccine Access Study: Invitation to Participate

About the project

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) is leading a project to learn from people who work closely with communities that may face specific barriers to accessing vaccines. This project's goal is to better understand those potential challenges to getting vaccinated, and how those barriers might affect people's choices and beliefs or attitudes about vaccinations in general. Ultimately, what we learn will help inform PHAC policy and program advice on vaccination in Canada. We're interested in hearing from individuals in a 30-60 minute interview if they work for an organization or provide services related to vaccination or advice about vaccines and how to get them to one or more of these groups:

- pregnant people,
- Black Canadians, and/or
- newcomers to Canada (i.e. recent immigrants)

How you can help

- 1) **If you are interested in sharing your experiences** as someone who serves one of these communities, please:
 - a) Choose a time that suits you for an interview from our Microsoft Bookings calendar,

<u>OR</u>

b) Email the researchers to set up a time (bescio-bsc@hc-sc.gc.ca).



2) Share our invitation:

- a) To other individuals/ organizations who work closely with communities facing challenges in accessing vaccines, and/ or
- b) To clients your organization serves if you think they would be interested in sharing their own thoughts and experiences about accessing vaccinations.

If you have questions about this project, please feel free to connect directly with the researchers using any of the following contact information:

- Behavioural Science Office (bescio-bsc@phac-aspc.gc.ca);
- Rhiannon Mosher (<u>rhiannon.mosher@phac-aspc.gc.ca</u>); and
- Stephanie Elliott (stephanie.elliott@phac-aspc.gc.ca)

Thank you for your consideration to support access to vaccination in Canada.

Here are more details of this project:

Researchers:

- This project is being led by PHAC's Behavioural Science Office (BeSciO) with support from subject-matter experts in the Vaccine Behaviour and Confidence team.
- Rhiannon Mosher (rhiannon.mosher@phac-aspc.gc.ca) and Stephanie Elliott (stephanie.elliott@phac-aspc.gc.ca) are the primary investigators. They can also be reached through the Behavioural Science Office (bescio-bsc@phacaspc.gc.ca).

Goal and Purpose:

- The goal of this work is to help PHAC better understand currently known and potentially unknown barriers or challenges to accessing vaccines among key populations. This work will help PHAC and other public health authorities across Canada provide more inclusive services for accessing vaccinations.
- We are focusing on three sub-groups that we learned from an earlier quantitative survey may face additional challenges to vaccination: pregnant people, Black Canadians, and newcomers to Canada (i.e. recent immigrants). PHAC wants to hear from:
 - People who support members of these groups with services related to vaccines (e.g., providing vaccination, sharing information/ resources on vaccination, advocacy, acting as a liaison to connect clients to vaccination services).
 - Members of these groups directly, where possible.

Timeline

PHAC plans to conduct interviews between November 2025 and February 2026 to inform upcoming guidance and programming.

Methods

- We are planning to conduct individual semi-structured interviews (up to 60 minutes) to help build a clear picture of needs, challenges, and perspectives.
- Interview questions will explore topics such as:
 - Barriers or challenges that the people you serve face when accessing vaccines;
 - Concerns or questions about vaccination and available resources to help answer these;
 - What might make getting vaccinated more convenient or easier.

Confidentiality and Privacy Measures

• This research has been approved by the Health Canada and Public Health Agency of Canada's Research Ethics Board (REB 2025-015P). Any personal information you provide to the Public Health Agency of Canada will be used by the researchers under the authority of section 4 of the Department of Health Act and section 3 of the Public Health Agency of Canada Act, and handled in accordance with the Privacy Act.

Why are we collecting your personal information?

We are collecting your personal information to determine your eligibility for this project and, if eligible, to contact you to participate in an interview about access to vaccines and trust in public health guidance.

How will your information be used?

There are no other uses of the personal information that we collect other than as stated above.

What happens if you choose not to provide personal information?

There are no legal or administrative consequences if you do not provide your personal information.

Your rights under the Privacy Act

- You may contact the Privacy Commissioner of Canada if you feel your personal information has been handled improperly.
- For more information, or to learn how your personal information is managed, contact bescio-bsc@phac-aspc.gc.ca.
- For more information: The collection of your personal information is described in Info Source at infosource.gc.ca. Refer to the personal information bank (PIB) PSU 938 - Outreach Activities.