

### The COVID-19 vaccination campaign is a priority for the CISSS des Laurentides!

**Saint-Jérôme, December 17, 2020** – The Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux (CISSS) des Laurentides' COVID-19 vaccination campaign will begin shortly and is now the organization's top priority for the coming months. The CISSS teams are actively preparing for the campaign, to be ready as soon as the vaccine arrives, with the delivery date to be confirmed shortly.

To help with planning, a new internal coordinating structure has been put in place to supervise logistics for the vaccination campaign in the Laurentians. Ms. Caroline Chantal will be the acting director in charge of COVID-19 vaccination, working in close collaboration with Dr. Danielle Auger, medical advisor to the Director of Public Health. A strategic committee comprised of representatives from several departments in the CISSS des Laurentides will assist them. This committee will analyse the various issues related to the vaccination campaign on a regular basis and ensure all aspects of the campaign are running smoothly.

“Given all the issues that have arisen due to COVID-19, putting an end to the spread of the virus is absolutely crucial and the vaccination campaign is our top organisational priority. Even if some aspects of how the vaccination campaign will unfold are still to be confirmed, we are already taking action to be efficient from the start, while maintaining the level and quality of care and services to the population,” said Ms. Rosemonde Landry, President and Executive Director of the CISSS des Laurentides.

In addition to sharing the organisation's top priority, Ms. Landry is committed to informing the public on a regular basis and to making the latest updates available in the [Vaccination](#) section of our website, to ensure that the people of the Laurentians stay continually informed about the campaign which will go on for several months.

“I completely understand the public's eagerness to know when and where people will be able to get the vaccine. What we know for now is that vaccination should commence by the end of December. We remind you that the number of doses will at first be limited and distributed gradually, starting with high-priority groups as identified by the Comité sur l'immunisation du Québec, i.e. vulnerable individuals and people with significantly diminished autonomy residing in long-term care facilities (CHSLD) or in intermediate and family-type resources (RI-RTF), as well as health and social services personnel who are in contact with patients,” said Ms. Landry.

Lastly, the President and Executive Director wants the public to understand that even if vaccines will soon be available, the Laurentians population must not become complacent about complying rigorously with health guidelines. “Keep up your efforts to protect yourselves and to protect the most vulnerable!”

For more information about COVID-19 vaccination and high-priority groups, please visit the <https://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/progress-of-the-covid-19-vaccination/> page of the Quebec Ministry of Health and Social Services website.

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