

**From:** [Sader, Bassem \(PHAC/ASPC\)](#) on behalf of [NACI / CCNI \(PHAC/ASPC\)](#)  
**To:** [Emilia DiSalvo](#)  
**Cc:** [NACI / CCNI \(PHAC/ASPC\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: COVID-19 Vaccine Prioritization  
**Date:** March 8, 2021 8:21:50 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[NACI Vaccine Prioritization March 6 2021.pdf](#)

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Al Phillips  
Business Manager & Financial Secretary  
United Association of Journeymen & Apprentices of the Plumbing & Pipefitting  
Industry of the United States and Canada  
Local Union 170

Dear Al Phillips:

We are writing in response to your correspondence of March 5, 2021, addressed to Dr. Caroline Quach-Thanh, Chair of the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI), regarding prioritization of construction workers for COVID-19 immunization. The NACI Secretariat is replying on her behalf.

As you know, NACI is an external advisory body that provides independent advice to the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) on the optimal use of authorized vaccines in Canada. In this role, NACI is providing guidance on the prioritization of key populations for COVID-19 immunization in the context of rolling vaccine supply to help inform the efficient, equitable and effective allocation of COVID-19 vaccines in Canada.

On February 15, 2021, NACI released updated [Guidance on the prioritization of key populations for COVID-19 immunization](#) for Stages 2 and 3 of vaccine rollout. This guidance is informed by a review of evidence on biological and social risk factors for severe COVID-19 disease; foundational elements guiding ethical decision-making for equitable, feasible and acceptable recommendations; and extensive stakeholder engagement completed by PHAC.

In Stage 2, NACI recommends authorized COVID-19 vaccines be offered to frontline essential workers who have direct and close physical contact with the public and who cannot work virtually. Immunizing essential workers minimizes the disproportionate burden of those taking on additional risks to maintain services essential for the functioning of society. While we are aware that some modelling is suggesting good outcomes from early immunization of young essential workers, note that these models are premised on strong assumptions of preventing onwards transmission among vaccinated individuals. The impacts of these vaccines on preventing transmission is still unknown, and direct protection of the most vulnerable is still an important strategy at this time in Canada.

NACI's guidance is advisory in nature as immunization program planning and delivery fall under provincial and territorial jurisdiction. Provincial and territorial governments are responsible for sequencing priority groups for COVID-19 immunization based on

jurisdictional needs and circumstances, including local epidemiology, public health considerations and rollout logistics. In addition, designations of essential services in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic will vary across jurisdictions within Canada. Canadians are encouraged to visit the website of their respective province or territory for more information on when they may be eligible for COVID-19 immunization. A list of provincial and territorial websites can be found at [Provincial and Territorial Immunization Information](#)

We hope that this information is helpful and thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

National Advisory Committee on Immunization Secretariat  
COVID-19 Immunization Program  
Public Health Agency of Canada

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**From:** Emilia DiSalvo <[Emilia.DiSalvo@ualocal170.com](mailto:Emilia.DiSalvo@ualocal170.com)>  
**Sent:** 2021-03-06 1:10 PM  
**To:** NACI / CCNI (PHAC/ASPC) <[phac.naci-ccni.aspc@canada.ca](mailto:phac.naci-ccni.aspc@canada.ca)>  
**Subject:** COVID-19 Vaccine Prioritization

Dear Dr. Quach-Thanh,

Please see attached letter from Business Manager A.D. Al Phillips, on the prioritization of the COVID-19 vaccine for essential workers in the construction industry.

Thank you.



**Emilia Di Salvo, BCom, CPA, CGA**

**Finance Manager**

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