Dear Parent/Guardian,

Re: Measles immunization catch-up for school age children

In response to cases of measles in British Columbia (BC), and outbreaks around the world, our province is holding a campaign to raise measles immunity among school children, and gather immunization records. Most children in BC are immune to measles because they have had two doses of vaccine.

You are receiving this letter for one of these reasons:
- Your child is missing one or two doses of measles, mumps, rubella vaccine (MMR).
- Your child received their vaccinations from their family doctor, or elsewhere, and our records are incomplete.
- Your child’s name and date of birth are not exactly the same in health and school records, and need to be updated.
- You recently moved to the area and we do not have your child’s records.

If your child has not had two doses of measles vaccine, I highly recommend you get your child immunized. Your child can receive vaccine at a Community Health Center, or from their family physician or a local pharmacist. First Nations children can also receive vaccines in their communities.

Public health nurses will be offering measles immunization clinics throughout the months of April-June, including options available during the evening and weekend. Please call the North Shore Measles Hotline at 604-983-6859 to book an appointment or if you have any questions.

If you think you have received this letter in error, or your child’s name or date of birth need to be updated, please call the North Shore Measles Hotline at 604-983-6859.

Please help us update our records. If your child has already received two doses of MMR, or in response to this letter receives them from a pharmacist or family physician, please email a photo of their records to us at nsimmunizations@vch.ca

You can also drop off a copy at their school or a Community Health Centre. Please include the following information:
- Your child’s full name, date of birth, and Care Card number
- Your address and phone number

You can find more information about this campaign, measles illness and vaccine, as well as your school coverage rate at www.vch.ca/measlescampaign. Questions can also be directed to your school public health nurse.

Sincerely,

Mark Lysyshyn, MD, MPH, FRCPC
Medical Health Officer
Vancouver Coastal Health