



**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)**

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Stephen McNiven, B.Ed., M.A., Superintendent of Schools
Kevin Black, C.P.A., C.G.A., Secretary Treasurer

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December 15, 2017

Dear Parent / Guardian of Princeton and Area Students,

Given an increase in meningococcal disease cases in recent months in the Okanagan, Interior Health has declared a meningococcal outbreak for the Okanagan region. Impacting 15-19 year olds. The risk of transmission to the general school population related to these cases is considered extremely low. However, Interior Health is initiating a mass immunization plan to offer the meningococcal quadrivalent vaccine to our Princeton and area grade 9-12 students and any individual 15-19 years of age who have not been previously vaccinated. The majority of grade 9 and 10 students have been vaccinated; however, grade 11 and 12 students have not. All students who have not been vaccinated will be offered the vaccine.

Attached you will find important information from Interior Health regarding the outbreak and consent for immunization. Please sign the attached parent consent form and return it to the school Monday. In the absence of a completed consent form, Interior Health will be relying on the "mature minor consent" option as outlined in the attached letter.

Public Health is currently scheduled to be at Princeton Secondary School on **Monday, December 18, 2017** offering vaccination to eligible students. A second date for The Bridge will be scheduled and communicated accordingly.

If you have questions please check Interior Health's website at: www.interiorhealth.ca or call the Public Health office at: 250-295-4442

Sincerely,

Stephen McNiven
Superintendent of Schools
School District #58 (Nicola-Similkameen)