



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Yukon flu clinics now offer new inhaled vaccine**

WHITEHORSE—This flu season Yukon's Immunization Program is offering a stress-free alternative to the traditional injection for children and youth aged two to 17 years.

"FluMist is a nasal spray that offers children an advantage over the traditional flu shot," said Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Brendan Hanley. "This is a great option for children and youth who may have a harder time with needles."

The nasal spray will be available at flu clinics for children and youth without active asthma or immunocompromising conditions. As this is the first year the program is available in Yukon, it will only be offered in Whitehorse clinics. With only 670 doses available, parents wanting to take advantage of this option for their young children are encouraged to not wait. FluMist will be given on a first-come, first-served basis.

"I encourage all Yukoners to take the time to get their flu vaccinations this year," said Minister of Health and Social Services Doug Graham. "Getting the vaccination this fall will help you remain healthy throughout winter and enable you to enjoy quality time with friends and family."

Influenza, or flu, is caused by a highly contagious virus that affects the respiratory system. Symptoms include the rapid onset of high fever, headaches, muscle aches and pains; as well as chills, chest discomfort and a dry, persistent cough.

Please contact your local health centre or visit [www.yukonflushot.ca](http://www.yukonflushot.ca) for upcoming clinic dates and times.

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Contact:

Elaine Schiman  
Cabinet Communications  
867-633-7961  
[elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca](mailto:elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca)

Nicole Goulah  
Communications, Health and Social Services  
867-456-6145  
[nicole.goulah@gov.yk.ca](mailto:nicole.goulah@gov.yk.ca)

Dr. Brendan Hanley  
Chief Medical Officer of Health  
867-456-6136  
[brendan.hanley@gov.yk.ca](mailto:brendan.hanley@gov.yk.ca)

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