# **GET PROTECTED** YOUR FLU VACCINE FACTSHEET

#### WHY SHOULD I GET THE FLU VACCINE?

- The flu vaccine can help protect you, and others from getting sick with influenza ("the flu")
- The flu is an illness caused by the influenza virus and can make some people very sick
- The flu is easy to catch from others
- Anyone over 6 months old can get the flu vaccine



### HOW CAN I GET THE FLU VACCINE?

- You can get the flu vaccine from your doctor, pharmacist, community health centre, or Aboriginal health service
- If getting to a clinic or pharmacy is hard for you, some services can give you the vaccine at home.
  Ask your provider if this is an option.
- Some people are more at risk of complications from the flu and are eligible for the free flu vaccine

  - 🏦 Adults over 65
  - First Nations people
  - A Pregnant women
  - People with chronic health conditions (e.g. diabetes)

### WHEN SHOULD I GET THE FLU VACCINE?

- You should get the flu vaccine every year
- It is best to get the flu vaccine before winter, but you can have it any time of the year
- It is safe to have the flu vaccine at the same time as the COVID-19 vaccine

## **ARE THERE ANY SIDE EFFECTS?**

- Some people may feel sick after they get any vaccine, this is called a side effect
- Most side effects are very mild and last 1 or 2 days
- Some more common side effects include:
  - Feeling tired
  - Pain on the arm where you got the vaccine
- · You cannot get the influenza infection from the flu vaccine

#### **NEED MORE INFORMATION?**

- Call the Loddon Mallee Public Health Unit: 1800 959 400
  - Speak with your doctor or support person

Visit the LMPHU website by scanning the QR code



