

#VaccinesWork



Today nine in ten children receive immunizations, but we cannot leave anyone behind. We must reach every child with life-saving vaccines.

- Angélique Kidjo, singer, songwriter, and activist

We are living in a global moment with the current outbreak of the coronavirus disease, **COVID-19** which causes illness ranging from the common cold to more severe cases leading to death. Never having been previously identified in humans, it is a frightening real-life situation of an emerging disease where little is known about its transmissibility, severity and other features, and no vaccine exists.

It is proven fact that vaccines remain one of the best and most cost-effective ways to prevent the spread of many of the world's worst diseases. As the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 tops 72,000 in over 29 countries including Canada, the coronavirus outbreak is a reminder that a healthy and prosperous world requires not only advances in medicine and research and development, but a

concerted effort to protect the children who still have not received the very basic life-saving vaccines that currently do exist.

As we enter into the fifth month of our **#VaccinesWork** campaign, we must tell our Canadian decision makers that we care about a world where everyone has access to vaccines, that there are still children left unprotected, and that our financial commitment to Global Polio Eradication Initiative (**GPEI**) and **Gavi**, the Vaccine Alliance is critical.

Ask #1: Canada to pledge \$215 million over 4 years to GPEI.

Ask #2: Canada to pledge \$600 million over 5 years to Gavi.

about GPEI

Polio mainly affects children under 5 years of age. As long as a single child remains infected, children in all countries are at risk. It is a disease that can frequently lead to permanent paralysis and sometimes death. Thanks to GPEI, the number of polio cases around the world has dropped from approximately 350,000 a year in 1988 to 33 in Afghanistan and Pakistan in 2018. If we act boldly now, we can eradicate polio from the globe in the next few years.

about Gavi

As a critically important vaccine provider to the world's poorest countries, Gavi has vaccinated 690 million children since 2000. It is estimated that up to 3 million lives are saved every year because of these increases in childhood immunizations. Over the next 5 years, let's ensure that Gavi can continue to provide 18 different kinds of vaccines (such as the HPV Vaccine, the world's first cancer preventing vaccine) to over 300 million children.

latest campaign wins

- [Statement in the House](#) by MP [Marwan Tabbara](#)
- Meetings with MPs [Sonia Sidhu](#), [Iqra Khalid](#), and [Salma Zahid](#) to talk about polio during International Development Week

Learn more about **immunizations** and see our up-to-date campaign milestones. Find more resources [here](#) to help you take action.



Safia Ibrahim

Polio survivor and advocate, Toronto (ON)

During International Development Week (IDW) last month, Safia met with MPs Sonia Sidhu, Iqra Khalid and Salma Zahid to talk about why Canada needs to invest in immunization programs around the world. She also spoke at the IDW reception about what it was like growing up with polio, and why she now advocates to make sure every child is vaccinated.

"We are so close to eradicating polio right now, we have never been this close. So now is the perfect time to do that final push and eradicate this disease once and for all."

Meet more of our immunization **champions.**



resources



immunizations brief

See all our resources under **your tools**. #VaccinesWork action sheets can be found under *education tools, about campaigns*. For other past action sheets, **email us**.

key dates

Mar 1: National Call with Results Canada

Mar 8: International Women's Day

Mar 20: International Day of La Francophonie

Mar 22: World Water Day

Mar 24: **World TB Day**

hashtags

#Canadianaid

#Cdnpoli

#EndPolio

#VaccinesWork

#PolioFreeWorld

#ProtectThe NextGeneration

tags

@ResultsCda

@JustinTrudeau

@KarinaGould

@CanadaDev

keywords

Canadian aid

Global Polio Eradication Initiative

GPEI

Vaccines

Gavi