**Media Release** 

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## **Protect your community and get COVID** vaccinated

## KULILA! PIKA NGAANYA PALYAMUNA MIRRINTJANKUPAYI. (LISTEN! THIS SICKNESS IS DANGEROUS).



Caption: COVID-19 vaccinations are being rollout on the Ngaanyatjarra Lands

The Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku is urging the people of the lands to get vaccinated in the fight against Coronavirus COVID-19.

With the State Government already preparing communities for COVID-19 transmission, Shire President Damian McLean said it is critical that community members are vaccinated against when the state borders open early next year.

"Due to the easing of border restrictions, we are concerned that COVID-19 may enter our community and have a devastating effect on people living on the Ngaanyatjarra Lands," said Cr McLean.

"Sometimes people may not even know they are sick, yet they are carrying the virus and unknowingly pass it onto the community."

"I encourage everyone to get the COVID-19 vaccine to protect yourself, your family, and others in our community," he said.

"Our community currently has a low vaccination rate, which means we are all at risk of getting the disease when the border restrictions are eased, and more travellers visit the Ngaanyatjarra Lands."

President McLean commended the community members that have already stepped up to get their vaccination and encouraged others to come forward to get their jab.

"Please also encourage your family and the community to get vaccinated to slow the spread of the virus in our community."

COVID-19 can be a very serious illness. This is especially true for the elderly and those who have existing medical conditions, such as heart diseases and diabetes. Getting a vaccine is one of the best ways to protect everyone in our community from getting really sick or dying from COVID-19.



Caption: Mrs Porter getting vaccinated

The latest COVID\_19 information and advice is available on the State Government website <u>https://www.wa.gov.au/government/covid-19-coronavirus</u>, or you can call the Coronavirus Information Helpline on 13 268 43.

You can also call or visit your local health clinic to get more information on COVID-19 or to get vaccinated.