Employee Communication
PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER CHANGES
February 15, 2022
Contact: Marco Deiana

Please share with your teams.

KEY MESSAGES

- The provincial requirement to provide proof of vaccination or negative tests in Saskatchewan businesses, workplaces and other public venues ended Monday, February 14 at 12:01 a.m.
- The Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination Administrative Policy and the COVID-19 Testing Policy have been repealed effective February 15, 2022.
- The Government of Saskatchewan has also announced that the public health order on masking will end as of March 1, 2022.
- At this time masks are still required for all employees.
- The City will continue to assess our current health and safety protocols, including masks for employees.
- All employees are encouraged to practice kindness and understanding and uphold the Respectful Workplace Guidelines as we all adjust to these changes.

INFORMATION

Proof of Vaccination/Negative Test
- City Facilities no longer require proof of vaccination from the public.
- New employees and contractors are no longer required to provide proof of vaccination.
- Employees who were providing weekly proof of negative COVID-19 tests are no longer required to submit results.
- The City of Regina continues to strongly recommend that those who are eligible be vaccinated or boosted.

Work Location for Professional/Administrative Employees
- There are measures in place to ensure employees in the workplace are safe, including barriers, masks and enhanced cleaning.
- Work location arrangements and return to the workplace are Director-led to accommodate department needs unique to their operational requirements and contingency plans.
- Each department and facility is different and will have a portion of employees working in the workplace, returning to the workplace and working remotely to maintain operational effectiveness.
Safety Measures and Self-Management

- Stay home with even mild symptoms and get tested.
- Self-test frequently with at-home Rapid Antigen Tests. Find a location to get your free kit.
- Practise proper cough and sneezing etiquette (into a tissue or the bend of your elbow).
- Wash your hands often with soap and water; if soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces regularly:
  - Steering wheels, seat belts, gear shift, radio knobs, etc.
  - Meeting room tables and chairs
  - Hard surfaces in kitchen areas

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Why is the City repealing the Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination Administrative Policy and the COVID-19 Testing Policy now?
94% of City employees are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 and that number is unlikely to change significantly. This high vaccination rate, which has remained stable for weeks, now allows the City to responsibly repeal the policies.

What if things get worse? Under what conditions will the City put COVID restrictions in place if the province chooses not to?
The health, safety and well-being of employees and residents continues to be a priority. We will remain in contact with public health officials and will continually reassess the need for reimplementing COVID-related policies.

How and when will I know when I'm returning to the workplace?
Managers will direct employees on the expectations for returning to the workplace, including timing of employees' return.

Can we have in-person meetings?
In-person meetings can begin after March 1, 2022. Respect the wishes of your coworkers regarding physical distancing and where possible, make Teams meetings an option and ask before working closely with each other.