## FW: Fed announcement

From: Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
To: Smith, Jimmy GCPE:EX <Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 10, 2021 10:56:47 AM PDT

Attachments: Letter to Premier Horgan (August\_5\_2021).pdf

From: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 10, 2021 10:53 AM

To: Hockin, Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Smith, George PREM:EX < George. Smith@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Fwd: Fed announcement

Sage (she/her) 778-678-0832

Sent from my mobile device

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX" < Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca >

Date: August 10, 2021 at 10:44:27 AM PDT

To: "Aaron, Sage PREM:EX" < Sage. Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Fed announcement

It's regarding this letter sent last week. More details below from federal contact.

From: MacDonald, Alex HLTH:EX < Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca >

Sent: August 10, 2021 10:43 AM

To: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX < Aileen. Machell@gov.bc.ca >

Subject: FW: Connecting from Min Hajdu's re PVC

From: MacDonald, Alex HLTH:EX Sent: August 10, 2021 9:55 AM

To: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX < Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca >; 'Dix, Adrian'

Cc: Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX < Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca >; Pokorny, Peter HLTH:EX

<Peter.Pokorny@gov.bc.ca>; van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX < Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: Connecting from Min Hajdu's re PVC

Looks like the feds want to announce their vaccine passport tomorrow.

-Alex

From: Lam3, Joanna (HC/SC) < joanna.lam3@canada.ca>

Sent: August 10, 2021 9:33 AM

To: MacDonald, Alex HLTH:EX < Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca >

Subject: Connecting from Min Hajdu's re PVC

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Alex,

I am just reaching out to follow up on the letter Minister Leblanc sent Premiers last week on proof of vaccination credentials (see attached).

We are tracking to make an announcement this coming Wednesday (along the lines of what is outlined in the letter) with all jurisdictions who want to signal their willingness to collaborate.

Minister Leblanc's team is also reaching out to Premiers' offices to confirm participation, but we wanted to connect with Health Ministers' offices as well to make sure you are in the loop.

If you can let us know today if you are interested in participating we will connect you with our

### communications teams.

### Thanks!

## Joanna Lam (she/her/elle)

Regional Advisor – West and North | Conseillère régionale – l'Ouest et Nord Office of the Minister of Health | Cabinet de la ministre de la Santé joanna.lam3@canada.ca

t: <u>343.553.4288</u>

## President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs



Président du Conseil privé de la Reine pour le Canada et ministre des Affaires intergouvernementales

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0A6

The Honourable John Horgan Premier of British Columbia P.O. Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, British Columbia V8W 9E1

AUG 0 5 2021

Dear Premier:

vaccination.

s.16

I am writing to provide you with an update on the development of a Canadian Proof of Vaccination Credential (PVC). Equipping Canadians with a standardized, internationally-recognized and verifiable PVC this fall will help facilitate Canadians' ability to travel around the world and return to Canada. It will also provide additional public health protection to Canada as returning Canadians will have a verifiable proof of

s.16

The PVC will be an authoritative, secure document that confirms a traveler's vaccination status. It will contain data regarding COVID-19 vaccination history (e.g., vaccine types, date, location of doses, etc.). In addition to its primary function to support Canadians' travel abroad, a province or territory could also make use of the PVC to support proof of vaccination within Canada, if desired.

s.16

## Canadä

s.16

I am very pleased with what we've accomplished to date in working collectively towards a Canadian PVC, given the benefits that this will provide our citizens in terms of international travel. I would again underline the federal government's willingness to collaborate with you, and provide assistance where you need it to help you modify your vaccine systems. We ask for your continued support to work on this project, and I ask that any questions you may have be brought forward to officials as they meet over the next few weeks.

I am forwarding, for their information, a copy of this correspondence to my colleagues Marco Mendicino, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship; and Patricia Hajdu, Minister of Health.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, P.C., Q.C., M.P.

cc: The Honourable Marco E. L. Mendicino, P.C., M.P.

The Honourable Patricia A. Hajdu, P.C., M.P.

## Fwd: For Mon/Tues: s.12

From: Hockin, Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>

To: Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 13, 2021 5:38:48 PM PDT

Attachments: s.12

Amber Hockin
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Premier
7785840867
Amber.hockin@gov.bc.ca
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Zacharuk, Christina PREM:EX" < Christina. Zacharuk@gov.bc.ca>

Date: August 13, 2021 at 5:06:06 PM PDT

To: "Kristianson, Eric PREM:EX" < Eric.Kristianson@gov.bc.ca>, "Wanamaker, Lori

PREM:EX" <Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca>, "Hockin, Amber PREM:EX"

<Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>, "Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX" <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>, "Shortt,

Amanda PREM:EX" < Amanda.Shortt@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: For Mon/Tues: \$.12

FYI for Monday DMC COVID and Tuesday CWG COVID Get Outlook for iOS

From: Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** Friday, August 13, 2021 4:51 PM **To:** Zacharuk, Christina PREM:EX

Cc: Moulton, Holly HLTH:EX

Subject:s.12

 $\label{lem:condition} \mbox{Hi Christina} - \mbox{here is the document drafted for the COVID-19 Cabinet and DM Committees. These have been forwarded by Holly for circulation to the committees. Steve \mbox{}$ 

Page 007 of 327 to/à Page 018 of 327

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12

# Proof of vaccination – Business community insight

BC Chamber of Commerce Fiona Famulak, President & CEO	Very supportive, members have been discussing need for proof of vaccination. See this as a tool to "navigate the tail of the pandemic more smoothly." Interest in low-cost solution that is easy to implement, non-mandatory approach for all but largest operations.
BC Business Council  Greg D'Avignon, President & CEO	<b>Supportive,</b> venue operators will be keen to have a mandate so that it's not an individual operator decision. Asks for as much clarity on locations, processes, and applicability as possible to eliminate grey areas.
Cdn Federation of Independent Business Sam Howard, Director, B.C.	CFIB membership survey currently underway – <b>preliminary support for proof of vaccination 63%</b> (80% if alternative is closure/lockdown). Primary concerns are implementation (training/IT/record keeping) and liability risks.
BC Hotel Association Ingrid Jarrett, President & CEO	<b>Strongly supportive</b> of proof of vaccination, membership eager to implement as soon as possible. Indicates ski resorts eager to implement as well.

# Proof of vaccination – Business community insight

Vancouver Canucks Trent Carroll, COO	<b>Management fully supportive</b> – both of vaccine passport and required use in certain circumstances. Public statement Aug 12 <sup>th</sup> that the team is "exploring the possibility of requiring proof of vaccination".
BC Restaurant & Foodservices Assn. Ian Tostenson, President & CEO	"100% behind it". Many restaurants already want to require proof of vaccination, but feel they need gov't support. Wants a mandate for staff too.
Banquet Halls Association of BC Laura Ballance	Supportive of mandatory proof of vaccination.
Alliance of Beverage Licensees (ABLE) Geoff Guignard, Executive Director	<b>Majority of members will be supportive</b> , a good path to avoiding further restrictions. Encourage proof of vaccination to be <b>mandatory</b> , and see this as a good incentive to encourage workers to get vaccinated.
Tourism Industry Association of BC Walt Judas, CEO	<b>Very supportive</b> of requiring proof of vaccine. Strong preference for requirement being mandatory.

## RE: VP materials for 1.30

From: Hamman, Lauren IGRS:EX <Lauren.Hamman@gov.bc.ca>
To: Brownsey, Silas IGRS:EX <Silas.Brownsey@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX <Pierrette.Maranda@gov.bc.ca>, Westgate,

Rachael IGRS:EX <Rachael.Westgate@gov.bc.ca>, Parvani, Sasha IGRS:EX

<Sasha.Parvani@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 17, 2021 1:01:27 PM PDT

Attachments: s.12; s.13

And, finally, here are the s.12; s.13

(tracked and clean). And the background paper with the

s.12; s.13

Huge thanks for Sasha for helping whilst also in PNWER Conference!

From: Hamman, Lauren IGRS:EX Sent: August 17, 2021 12:33 PM

To: Brownsey, Silas IGRS:EX <Silas.Brownsey@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX <Pierrette.Maranda@gov.bc.ca>; Westgate, Rachael IGRS:EX

<Rachael.Westgate@gov.bc.ca>; Parvani, Sasha IGRS:EX <Sasha.Parvani@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: VP materials for 1.30

Latest for the s.12; s.13 (tracked and clean versions attached).

And just in case you need more detail<sup>s, 12</sup>; s.13

I have attached the notes from the press conf last week

with important highlights attached<sup>s.13</sup>

Just in case.

We will see what we can do with s.12; s.13 in 20 mins.

From: Brownsey, Silas IGRS:EX < Silas.Brownsey@gov.bc.ca >

Sent: August 17, 2021 12:15 PM

To: Hamman, Lauren IGRS:EX < Lauren. Hamman@gov.bc.ca >

Cc: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX < Pierrette.Maranda@gov.bc.ca >; Westgate, Rachael IGRS:EX

<Rachael.Westgate@gov.bc.ca>; Parvani, Sasha IGRS:EX <Sasha.Parvani@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: VP materials for 1.30

Thanks!

From: Hamman, Lauren IGRS:EX < Lauren. Hamman@gov.bc.ca >

**Sent:** August 17, 2021 11:48 AM

**To:** Brownsey, Silas IGRS:EX <<u>Silas.Brownsey@gov.bc.ca</u>>

Cc: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX < Pierrette. Maranda@gov.bc.ca >; Westgate, Rachael IGRS:EX

<Rachael.Westgate@gov.bc.ca>; Parvani, Sasha IGRS:EX <Sasha.Parvani@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** VP materials for 1.30

Importance: High

Hi Silas,

Here is the VP deck and background paper as at 25 June 2021 for your reference. I have included here:

- 1. Deck
- 2. Deck with speaking notes
- 3. Background paper

Sasha and I are working on updating the s.12; s.13

if time - there may not be) tables. So please

ignore Appendices 8 and 9 in the background paper. I will send you an updated \$.12; \$.13 at least) within the hour.

Regards,

Lauren

Lauren Hamman

Advisor, Intergovernmental Relations

Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat

Office of the Premier

W. + 1 778 974 3666 | C. +1 250 507 3515

E. lauren.hamman@gov.bc.ca

2020 Top Work Unit Winner

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13

Page 030 of 327 to/à Page 031 of 327

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.16

Page 032 of 327

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13

Page 033 of 327

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.14; s.16

Page 034 of 327

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.16

Page 035 of 327

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.14; s.16

Page 036 of 327 to/à Page 037 of 327

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.14

Page 038 of 327 to/à Page 042 of 327

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.14

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.16

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12; s.13; s.16



### **BRIEFING NOTE**

## **Proof of COVID-19 Health Status Technical Readiness Briefing**

## **Briefing Note**

What:

Verifiable proofs of COVID-19 health status

Who:

Lisa Beare, Minister, Citizens' Services Shauna Brouwer, Deputy Minister, Citizens' Services CJ Ritchie, Associate Deputy Minister, Citizens' Services

#### **Executive Summary:**

B.C. has been working with the federal government and other provinces and territories on a proof of vaccine certificate ("PVC") to be used for international travel.

The Ministry of Citizens' Services (CITZ) and Ministry of Health (HLTH) are currently reviewing Canada's proposed format and technical specifications for a PVC. The federal government have asked Provinces to be ready to issue a PVC by mid-fall 2021. By December, the federal government is planning to issue a signed proof of vaccination that would be accepted by other Countries.

s.13; s.16

s.13; s.16 Domestic use cases will be considered based on public health advice.

#### **Background:**

Many governments around the world have implemented, announced, or are studying the use of verifiable proofs of COVID-19 health status to support a return to day-to-day activities including international travel, tourism, and hospitality.

s.13; s.16

1

Ministry of Citizens' Services



### **BRIEFING NOTE**

## **Proof of COVID-19 Health Status Technical Readiness Briefing**

s.13

s.13 Testing will initially be done with internal staff and consultants. In the event direction is received from Cabinet to implement PVCs domestically a communications plan will be developed in advance of broader testing.

On August 12, Minister Dix announced vaccination requirements for employees in long term care homes and personal service providers entering care homes. Ministry of Health and Citizens' Services are investigating options for demonstration of vaccination status. At this time, a range of options are being considered.

On August 13, the federal government announced a vaccination requirement for employees across the federal public service as well as employees in federally regulated air, rail, and marine transportation sectors to be vaccinated. The vaccination requirement will extend to certain travellers including all commercial air travellers, passengers on interprovincial trains, and passengers on large marine vessels with overnight accommodations, such as cruise ships. This requirement was not shared with the Government of B.C. beforehand, and work is underway to determine how it will be supported.

### **Next Steps:**

 Representatives in HLTH and CITZ continue to meet with the Government of Canada to ensure effective roll out of the technology solution.

2



## **BRIEFING NOTE**

## **Proof of COVID-19 Health Status Technical Readiness Briefing**

• Testing of the technology will begin in the coming weeks; further direction may be required with regard to domestic use cases and testing.

## Re: Questions for HLTH

From Wanamaker, Lori PREM:EX <Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca>

To: Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, van Baarsen, Amanda

HLTH:EX <Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>, Hockin, Amber PREM:EX

<Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>,

Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 18, 2021 6:20:29 PM PDT

Thanks Geoff. The health team will work through the these questions.

Lori

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 18, 2021, at 5:54 PM, Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX < Geoff. Meggs@gov.bc.ca > wrote:

Lori, attached are issues we'd like to clarify tomorrow for inclusion in the announcement Friday. Thanks for your assistance.

Geoff

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX" <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>

Date: August 18, 2021 at 5:41:39 PM PDT

To: "Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX" < Geoff. Meggs@gov.bc.ca>, "Hockin, Amber

PREM:EX" < Amber. Hockin@gov.bc.ca>, "Bain, Don PREM:EX"

<Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>, "Aaron, Sage PREM:EX" <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject: Questions for HLTH** 

These are the questions I put together for answers from health.

I added a question on enforcements.13 s.13

<Proof of Vaccination.docx>

## Re: Questions for HLTH

From Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>

. Baill, Boll I Reivi. EX Doll. Baill@gov.bo.oa

Cc: Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>, Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX

Hockin, Amber PREM:EX < Amber. Hockin@gov.bc.ca>

<Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>,

Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 19, 2021 6:51:28 AM PDT

Yes I think CITZ should be aware.

From: Hockin, Amber PREM:EX Sent: August 18, 2021 6:41 PM

To: Bain, Don PREM:EX

To:

Cc: Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX; Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX

Subject: Re: Questions for HLTH

Thanks Don. Good flag. Should we connect with CITZ on this?

Amber Hockin
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Premier
7785840867
Amber.hockin@gov.bc.ca
Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 18, 2021, at 6:04 PM, Bain, Don PREM:EX < Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hello all, s.13; s.16

Don

From: Hockin, Amber PREM:EX Sent: August 18, 2021 5:43 PM To: Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX

Cc: Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX; Bain, Don PREM:EX; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX

Subject: Re: Questions for HLTH

Thanks Tim.

Amber Hockin
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Premier

7785840867 Amber.hockin@gov.bc.ca Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 18, 2021, at 5:41 PM, Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

These are the questions I put together for answers from health.

I added a question on enforcement s.13

<Proof of Vaccination.docx>

# FW: Update on communications rollout - new Covid measures, vaccination passport, K-12 and PSI policies

From Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX

: <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

To: LP PO Communications Staff < POCOMM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, Badger, Joleen

GCPE:EX <Joleen.Badger@gov.bc.ca>, Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX

<Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca>, Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX

<Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>, Scarth, Todd FIN:EX <Todd.Scarth@gov.bc.ca>, Walker, Alexa GCPE:EX <Alexa.Walker@gov.bc.ca>, Hawthorn, Tom GCPE:EX <Tom.Hawthorn@gov.bc.ca>, Dinicol, Sam GCPE:EX <Sam.Dinicol@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 19, 2021 2:54:30 PM PDT

Tomorrow's announcement delayed until Monday. More details below.

Sage (she/her) 778-678-0832

From: Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 19, 2021 2:52 PM

**To:** Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX <Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca>; Whiteside, Jennifer EDUC:EX <Jennifer.Whiteside@gov.bc.ca>; Kang, Anne AEST:EX <Anne.Kang@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>; van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX <Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>; Beale, William EDUC:EX <William.Beale@gov.bc.ca>; Snoddon, Michael AEST:EX <Michael.Snoddon@gov.bc.ca>; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>; Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>; Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX <Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca>; Wanamaker, Lori PREM:EX <Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; MacDonald, Scott D EDUC:EX <D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>; Lemmer, Nicola I AEST:EX <Nicola.Lemmer@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** Update on communications rollout - new Covid measures, vaccination passport, K-12 and PSI policies Good afternoon,

The rollout of covid-19 measures reviewed by the Cabinet Working Group on Tuesday has been complicated by difficulties in ensuring some key questions can be answered correctly. To make sure the announcements are effective, we have to adjust the schedule.

In particular, <u>announcement of the vaccine passport initiative and related measures must wait until Monday</u>. This will delay the other announcements by 24 hours.

For clarity, this is the high level plan for rollout that the PO is working from at this point:

#### 1. Friday August 20

- No public event finalization of vaccine passport plans, briefing for Premier
- Confirm comms plan for Monday, Tuesday

#### 2. Monday, August 23

- Vaccination passport news conference
  - o Who: PJH, MAD, DBH
  - o Where: Victoria
  - o Key elements:
    - availability of vaccine status indicator with move to federally-compliant app in October
    - scope of new measures where passport mandate in effect

#### 3. Tuesday, August 24

- K-12 back to school plan with mask mandate
  - o Who: MJW
  - Where: Vancouver or Victoria
  - o Key elements:
    - Update on return to school masking policy
    - Update on ventilation work

#### 4. TBC - could also be Tuesday, August 24

- · AEST back to school arrangements
  - o Who: MAK
  - Where: Vancouver
  - o Key elements:

- Mask mandate
- Decision on vaccination measures

Thanks for your assistance and understanding. Geoff

## **GEOFF MEGGS**

Chief of Staff, Premier's Office West Annex, Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC, V8V 1K7 250 387-1715

# RE: Update on communications rollout - new Covid measures, vaccination passport, K-12 and PSI policies

From Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>

To: van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX <Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Hockin, Amber PREM:EX

<Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>, Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron,

Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 19, 2021 2:57:06 PM PDT

Yes on regional measures for IHA, but not, of course for larger announcement.

Geoff

#### **GEOFF MEGGS**

Chief of Staff, Premier's Office West Annex, Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC, V8V 1K7 250 387-1715

From: van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX < Amanda.van Baarsen@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 19, 2021 2:55 PM

To: Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: Update on communications rollout - new Covid measures, vaccination passport, K-12 and PSI policies

No objection to our going out regarding IHA cases and expansion of measures tmrw if needed, correct?

Sent from my iPhone

From: "Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX" < Geoff. Meggs@gov.bc.ca >

**Date:** August 19, 2021 at 2:51:43 PM PDT

**To:** "Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX" < <a href="mailto:Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca">Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca</a>, "Whiteside, Jennifer EDUC:EX" < <a href="mailto:Jennifer.Whiteside@gov.bc.ca">Jennifer.Whiteside@gov.bc.ca</a>, "Kang, Anne AEST:EX" < <a href="mailto:Anne.Kang@gov.bc.ca">Anne.Kang@gov.bc.ca</a>>

Cc: "Aaron, Sage PREM:EX" < Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca >, "Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX"

<Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>, "van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX"

<Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>, "Beale, William EDUC:EX"

< William. Beale@gov.bc.ca >, "Snoddon, Michael AEST: EX"

< Michael. Snoddon@gov.bc.ca >, "Hockin, Amber PREM: EX" < Amber. Hockin@gov.bc.ca >,

"Bain, Don PREM:EX" <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>, "Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX"

<Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca>, "Wanamaker, Lori PREM:EX" <Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca>,

"Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX" < <a href="mailto:Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca">Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca</a>, "MacDonald, Scott D

EDUC:EX" < D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca >, "Lemmer, Nicola I AEST:EX"

<Nicola.Lemmer@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Update on communications rollout - new Covid measures, vaccination passport, K-12 and PSI policies

Good afternoon,

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- K-12 back to school plan with mask mandate
  - o Who: MJW
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  - Key elements:
    - Update on return to school masking policy
    - Update on ventilation work

### 4. TBC - could also be Tuesday, August 24

- AEST back to school arrangements
  - o Who: MAK
  - Where: Vancouver
  - o Key elements:
    - Mask mandate
    - Decision on vaccination measures

Thanks for your assistance and understanding.

Geoff

### **GEOFF MEGGS**

Chief of Staff, Premier's Office West Annex, Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC, V8V 1K7 250 387-1715

## FW: Arrivecan deck with screenshots

From: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX <Pierrette.Maranda@gov.bc.ca>
To: Brownsey, Silas IGRS:EX <Silas.Brownsey@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 19, 2021 6:24:31 PM PDT
Attachments: ArriveCAN 101 - July 2021 - EN.pptx

Silas: It's a large document – screenshot of the receipt is on slide 36 that gives you a family receipt where some

comply and some don't.

From: Spowart, Michael (PHAC/ASPC) <michael.spowart@phac-aspc.gc.ca>

Sent: August 19, 2021 6:14 PM

To: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX <Pierrette.Maranda@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Arrivecan deck with screenshots

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Pierette,

I have this latest one from July which may be too much detail for what you are looking for, but let me know.

Michael

s.22

MICHAEL SPOWART

Regional Director - Western Region (BC/Alberta)
Public Health Agency of Canada / Government of Canada
E-mail: michael.spowart@canada.ca / Tel: (604) 666-7128

Directeur Régional - Région de l'ouest (CB/Alberta)

l'Agence de la Santé Publique du Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Courriel: michael.spowart@canada.ca / Tél: (604) 666-7128





## **ArriveCAN 101**

Download the mobile app or sign in online to provide mandatory travel information required for entry into Canada

July 2021



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#### FW: Arrivecan deck with screenshots

From: Brownsey, Silas IGRS:EX <Silas.Brownsey@gov.bc.ca>
To: Pokorny, Peter HLTH:EX <Peter.Pokorny@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX <Pierrette.Maranda@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 19, 2021 6:42:15 PM PDT

Attachments: image001.jpg, ArriveCAN 101 - July 2021 - EN.pptx

Peter - here's the relevant slide:

Copyright

s.13; s.16 We

will follow-up on the following:

• Confirmation that travelers that are not Canadian citizens wouldn't fall into a "partially vaccinated" category; this would only be for Canadians that are travelling back in?

- Is this the most current image? Eg. Has this changed at all post August 9 when the border opened to the US
- What do all the letters mean?
- Can we get a clean image and permission to use?

Anything else?

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#### Questions: Arrivecan deck with screenshots

From: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX <Pierrette.Maranda@gov.bc.ca>
To: Brownsey, Silas IGRS:EX <Silas.Brownsey@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 20, 2021 8:20:34 AM PDT

Attachments: Legend re ArriveCAN Receipt.docx, ArriveCAN - August 2021 - with US

discretionary travel.pptx, ATT00002.htm, ATT00001.htm

Sorry for the delay – computer issues on my end.

Answers to the questions are below

Pierrette

#### Begin forwarded message:

From: "Spowart, Michael (PHAC/ASPC)" < michael.spowart@phac-aspc.gc.ca >

**To:** "Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX" < <u>Pierrette.Maranda@gov.bc.ca</u>> **Cc:** "Lowe, Kevin (PHAC/ASPC)" < <u>kevin.lowe@phac-aspc.gc.ca</u>>

Subject: RE: Arrivecan deck with screenshots

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Pierette,

s.13; s.16

Michael.

s.22

#### MICHAEL SPOWART

Regional Director - Western Region (BC/Alberta)
Public Health Agency of Canada / Government of Canada
E-mail: <a href="mailto:michael.spowart@canada.ca">michael.spowart@canada.ca</a> / Tel: (604) 666-7128

Directeur Régional - Région de l'ouest (CB/Alberta) l'Agence de la Santé Publique du Canada / Gouvernement du Canada Courriel: <u>michael.spowart@canada.ca</u> / Tél: (604) 666-7128

----Original Message-----

From: Maranda, Pierrette IGRS:EX < Pierrette.Maranda@gov.bc.ca >

Sent: 2021-08-19 6:50 PM

To: Spowart, Michael (PHAC/ASPC) < michael.spowart@phac-aspc.gc.ca>

Cc: Lowe, Kevin (PHAC/ASPC) < kevin.lowe@phac-aspc.gc.ca>

Subject: Fwd: Arrivecan deck with screenshots

Additional questions:

- \* Confirmation that travelers that are not Canadian citizens wouldn't fall into a "partially vaccinated" category; this would only be for Canadians that are travelling back in?
- \* Is this the most current image? Eg. Has this changed at all post August 9 when the border opened to the US
- \* What do all the letters mean?
- \* Can we get a clean image and permission to use?

**Thanks** 

Pierrette

Copyright	oyright
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#### Legend

(I) PVC: The traveller meets the fully vaccinated criteria (full dosage of a vaccine accepted by Health Canada (or combination of accepted vaccines) at least 14 days prior to entry; the traveller has uploaded proof for each dose; the uploaded proof has passed the optical character recognition (OCR) simple check.

**(V) PVC:** The traveller meets the fully vaccinated criteria (full dosage of a vaccine accepted by Health Canada (or combination of accepted vaccines) at least 14 days prior to entry; and the traveller has uploaded proof for each dose; however, the uploaded proof <u>did not pass</u> the optical character recognition (OCR) simple check or is pending.

- This advises the BSO to more closely scrutinize the PVC.

(No visual marker next to their name) PVC: The traveller falls under one of the following scenarios:

- They have not received a vaccine
- They have received a vaccine not accepted by Health Canada
- They have not received the full dosage of a vaccine accepted by Health Canada (e.g., only one dose of a two-dose vaccine)
- They received one dose of a vaccine accepted by Health Canada and a second dose of a vaccine not accepted by Health Canada
- It has been less than 14 days since their last dose
- They have not uploaded proof of each dose (e.g., one upload for dose 1 and one upload for dose 2, if they selected a 2-dose vaccine)

**(S) Symptoms:** The traveller has answered 'yes' to the following question: "Are you or any of the travellers listed on this form experiencing any of the following symptoms? Symptoms are defined as: fever and cough; - fever and difficulty breathing."

(Q) Quarantine Plan: The traveller has answered at least one of the quarantine plan questions (yes/no) in such a way that warrants a referral to PHAC. If you select the traveller's name, it will specify which of these scenarios triggered the flag.

- Do you have accommodation where you can quarantine for 14 days or possibly longer? (No = flag)
- Can you avoid all contact with other people in the household with whom you did not travel and have no guests? (No = flag)
- Will you have access to the necessities of life, including water, food, medication and heat without leaving quarantine? (No = flag)
- Are there at-risk people at the location where you plan to quarantine? (Yes = flag)
- Is there a person at the location where you plan to quarantine who works or assists in a facility, home or workplace that includes at-risk populations? (Yes = flag)
- Is your place of quarantine a group living environment (e.g. group home or senior residence) or does it currently house different families? (Yes = flag)

Note: As of the release on August 9, if a traveller selects they are traveling for discretionary purposes (purpose of travel = Discretionary/optional travel by fully vaccinated US citizen, US permanent resident or resident of Saint-Pierre et Miquelon) and does <u>not</u> meet the requirements for fully vaccinated (i.e., meet the conditions to get an "I" or "V" on their receipt), they will get an error message, will be stopped from proceeding in their submission, and <u>they will not get an ArriveCAN receipt.</u>

- Travellers who are using an older version of the app (i.e., if they submit before August 9 or do not update the app after the release on August 9) will not have the option to select discretionary travel (they would select 'none of the above') and the non-issuance of the receipt will not be triggered.





# Proof of COVID-19 vaccination and Boarding Decisions for Discretionary Fully Vaccinated Travellers

UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE PROHIBITED

August 6, 2021



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#### RE: Québec vaccine passport

From: Brownsey, Silas IGRS:EX <Silas.Brownsey@gov.bc.ca>
To: Charland, Gilbert <Gilbert.Charland@mce.gouv.qc.ca>

Sent: August 20, 2021 1:45:26 PM PDT

Thanks Gilbert. I spoke to Louise on this a couple times over the last day, and there may be some utility in a discussion about ArriveCan.

From: Charland, Gilbert < Gilbert. Charland@mce.gouv.qc.ca>

Sent: August 20, 2021 12:09 PM

To: Brownsey, Silas IGRS:EX <Silas.Brownsey@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Québec vaccine passport

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Silas,

I just want to give you more details about the vaccine passport envisage in Québec :

The vaccine passport (proof of vaccination in code Q/R form) will be necessary to have access by September 1<sup>st</sup> to bars, gyms and for team and contact sports activities.

The passport won't be required for essential services and retail stores.

Works is undergo for proof of vaccination for Québec non residents from Canada s.16 s.16

More details are to come, I will keep you in the loop as soon as I can. Have a good weekend Gilbert

#### Gilbert Charland, Ph. D

Secrétaire général associé

#### Secrétariat du Québec aux relations canadiennes

Ministère du Conseil exécutif Édifice H, 3<sup>e</sup> étage, bureau 3.577 875, Grande Allée Est Québec (Québec) G1R 4Y8

Téléphone: 418 643-4011, poste 8562

Télécopieur : 418 528-0052 gilbert.charland@mce.gouv.qc.ca

Ce courriel est à usage restreint. S'il ne vous est pas destiné, veuillez svp le détruire et en informer l'expéditeur.

#### Re: For Sage

From Beale, William EDUC:EX <William.Beale@gov.bc.ca>

To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX

<Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Marriott, Sarah GCPE:EX <Sarah.Marriott@gov.bc.ca>, Snoddon, Michael AEST:EX

<Michael.Snoddon@gov.bc.ca>, Finn, Heather GCPE:EX <Heather.Finn@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 20, 2021 2:34:56 PM PDT

Hi Sage, might as well send you this as were on the blower

On Aug 20, 2021, at 2:22 PM, Marriott, Sarah GCPE:EX <Sarah.Marriott@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

#### Agreed.

From: Snoddon, Michael AEST:EX < Michael. Snoddon@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 20, 2021 2:14 PM

**To:** Finn, Heather GCPE:EX <Heather.Finn@gov.bc.ca>; Marriott, Sarah GCPE:EX <Sarah.Marriott@gov.bc.ca>; Beale, William EDUC:EX <William.Beale@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: For Sage

This looks good to me.

#### Michael Snoddon (he/him)

Senior Ministerial Advisor

Ministry of Advanced Education & Skills Training

cell: 250-818-1035 | email: Michael.Snoddon@gov.bc.ca

From: Finn, Heather GCPE:EX < Heather.Finn@gov.bc.ca >

Sent: August 20, 2021 2:13 PM

**To:** Snoddon, Michael AEST:EX < <a href="Michael.Snoddon@gov.bc.ca">Marriott, Sarah GCPE:EX < <a href="Sarah.Marriott@gov.bc.ca">Sarah.Marriott@gov.bc.ca</a>; Beale, William EDUC:EX < <a href="William.Beale@gov.bc.ca">William.Beale@gov.bc.ca</a>

Subject: For Sage

\*\*Draft\*\*

Hi Sage,

We would like to propose the following for Tuesday morning, 10am:

- Joint EDUC and AEST announcement with Dr. Henry and Dr. Ballem, re: back to school COVID safety plans
- Press Theatre in Victoria
- Run of show:
  - Minister Kang
  - o Minister Whiteside
  - o Dr. Henry
  - o Dr. Ballem
- Separate NRs for EDUC and AEST given the amount of content and tight turn around time.

Rationale:

- Provides both MJW and MAK the support of public health expertise during QA.
- While the two sectors have a lot of differences, each would prompt questions about the other. Doing the announcements together will give clarity to media and all stakeholders at the same time.

s.13

• Dr Ballem to give vaccine update and pitch those not yet vaccinated to do so before the return to school.

Heather Finn (she/her)
Director – Cabinet Priorities
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Heather.Finn@gov.bc.ca
778-679-2104

#### PJH SNs for Monday vax certification announcement

From: Hawthorn, Tom GCPE:EX <Tom.Hawthorn@gov.bc.ca>

To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX

<Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>, Hagglund, Jarrett PREM:EX
<Jarrett.Hagglund@gov.bc.ca>, Smith, George PREM:EX
<George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX

<Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Dinicol, Sam GCPE:EX <Sam.Dinicol@gov.bc.ca>, Scarth, Todd FIN:EX

<Todd.Scarth@gov.bc.ca>, Walker, Alexa GCPE:EX

<Alexa.Walker@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 20, 2021 3:15:51 PM PDT

Attachments: 20210823 SN PJH vax certification.TH2.docx

Hi Sage and Lindsay:

Here's a draft of SNs for PJH for Monday's announcement. Opens with thank-you to firefighters and others, as per instructions. This version has been reviewed by Sarah Marriott and HLTH comms.

Cheers

Tom



# SPEAKING NOTES Vaccination certification August 23, 2021

#### Headline

Premier John Horgan announces new measures to protect people

#### Quote

"Getting vaccinated protects you and your family," Premier John Horgan said. "It protects your neighbours. The more people who are vaccinated the safer it is for all of us. It brings us closer to putting the pandemic behind us and returning to the life we once knew."

#### **Audience**

• Press theatre with Minister Dix, PHO Dr. Bonnie Henry, and reporters

#### **Format**

• 3-minute speech at podium followed by media scrum

Speaking notes begin on the next page

Good morning.

[Land acknowledgement].

I'm joined today by PHO Dr. Bonnie Henry and Minister Dix.

This has been a summer unlike any other.

Before we get to today's announcement, I want to offer thanks to some brave people on behalf of all British Columbians.

Thank you to all the crews and volunteers battling wildfires throughout the province.

You are engaged in a difficult and dangerous fight.

Thank you to everyone on the firelines and all those on the frontlines assisting in evacuations.

Thanks to the BC Wildlife Service, Emergency Management BC, and the RCMP for all you are doing. We know your efforts have saved lives and property.

We also know your work is not yet done.

We want you to know we have your backs.

Our gratitude is expressed at shift changes when people line the streets to applaud.

That is a heart-warming scene.

That is how we do things here in B.C.

We work together – in ways small and large – to make things better for everyone.

That is also how we have faced the pandemic.

The largest immunization program in the province's history has led to the full vaccination of almost three of every four eligible British Columbians.

Getting vaccinated keeps everyone safe and slows the spread of Covid-19.

The recent surge in cases in people who are unvaccinated shows that more needs to be done.

It is time for next steps.

Starting on September 13, proof of vaccination will be required to access many private and public events, services, and businesses.

If you wish to keep attending these places and events, you will need to be vaccinated.

Of course, getting vaccinated is a personal choice.

It is a personal choice with consequences. As it should be.

We are making this announcement today so those who have yet to get their vaccination can do so.

Book your appointment today.

Take advantage of walk-in clinics.

We are continuing to work with businesses to ensure a smooth transition to these new health measures.

Getting vaccinated protects you and your family.

It protects your neighbours.

The more people who are vaccinated the safer it is for all of us.

It also brings us closer to putting the pandemic behind us and returning to the life we once knew.

Thank you.

Now Dr. Henry will provide more details.

#### Re: Monday's announcement - current status

From Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>

To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX

<Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>, Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX

<Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca>, Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX <Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 21, 2021 3:00:53 PM PDT

Thanks Sage

On Aug 21, 2021, at 12:17 PM, Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

We don't have a Premier briefing in the calendar for Monday. I will work with our team to get that sorted.

Sage (she/her) 778-678-0832 Sent from my mobile device

On Aug 21, 2021, at 12:05 PM, Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

One more update – I just talked to Stephen Brown and he said we will be sharing the materials more widely tomorrow morning.

From: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX Sent: August 21, 2021 9:49 AM

**To:** Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX <Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca>; Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX <Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca>; Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca> **Subject:** RE: Monday's announcement - current status

Caucus is being briefed from 9-10:30 am on Monday, and the opposition parties right after.

From: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX Sent: August 21, 2021 8:25 AM

**To:** Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX < <u>Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX < <u>Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Harris, Megan GCPE:EX < <u>Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca</u>>

**Cc:** Aaron, Sage PREM:EX < <u>Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca</u>> **Subject:** RE: Monday's announcement - current status

Yes, we will give the MO an MLA kit with KMQA once we have our final messaging document approved.

I'll check with Amanda on the caucus briefing.

Here are the current materials, but they aren't ready to be shared more widely at this point.

Vaccine proof news release (sharepoint.com)

#### Proof of Vaccine KMQA (sharepoint.com)

Regarding Premier's briefing – I'm not sure when it is, perhaps Sage knows. Otherwise I'll ask Stephen Brown during our noon meeting today.

For the call centres – their QA always goes out the evening before, so ideally they should receive the QA tomorrow afternoon. I'll connect with David Hume and Alison Copeland on this.

And for Tuesday morning media, I know Minister Whiteside and Minister Kang will do follow-up media from their event, so I would still like MD to go out Tuesday morning. s.13 s.13

From: Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX < Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca >

Sent: August 21, 2021 8:03 AM

To: Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX < Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca >; Harris, Megan GCPE:EX

<Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX < Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca >; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX

<Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Monday's announcement - current status

In addition to the stakeholder briefings, do we know when caucus is being briefed and will your MO make sure government MLAs have a communications package?

From: Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX < Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** August 21, 2021 7:49 AM

To: Harris, Megan GCPE:EX < Megan. Harris@gov.bc.ca >

**Cc:** Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <<u>Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <<u>Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX <<u>Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca</u>>

Subject: Re: Monday's announcement - current status

Thanks.

s.13

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 21, 2021, at 7:28 AM, Harris, Megan GCPE:EX < Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Thanks Aileen, this is a great summary. Things change quickly, yesterday Chandler, Karl and I were talking about s.13

Regarding Tuesday morning media, should we hold Dix until after the EDU/AEST announcement? The MA will be out Tuesday so media will know it's coming.

Re briefings, when is PJH getting briefed? Industry tables through JERI are happening at 10 am on Monday I am told. I have the original list of those folks I sent to you yesterday, let me know if you need it again. When are HAs being briefed?

Is David Hume's team up to speed so that the call centre is ready? He will need the QA ASAP.

Can you send the draft NR so I can take a look? I won't share it.

**Thanks** 

Megan

On Aug 21, 2021, at 6:49 AM, Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hello,

Just giving you an update on where things are at. The itinerary for the event is attached.

- -the media advisory is with editors, set to go around 4pm tomorrow on my approval.
- -the NR has been reviewed by issues, with a couple of edits/question from issues I'll run by Stephen Brown and Dr. Henry today
- -the KMQA will be shared around this afternoon, after another review with Stephen Brown. Issues has reviewed with a couple of questions. Lori Cascaden has offered her advice from JERI, and her ADM will review this afternoon after I share the next version.

s.13

- s.13 I sent it to the Minister for his thoughts but haven't heard back. I'd like to get that approved today so it's ready to go on the web, social media, etc on Monday.
  -Premier speaking notes were drafted by his team. We've done notes for MD and Dr. Henry.
- -we will draft social media for the Minister on Monday morning to go out after the event.
- -In terms of follow-up media, Minister was already scheduled to go on CKNW Monday afternoon, so we will have him do that.

Tuesday morning, I'm thinking:

Minister Dix: CBC circuit, plus Fairchild Radio and Sher Punab. Minister Kahlon: CKNW Simi Sara, CFAX, and Red FM.

-other items I'm wondering about: -stakeholder engagement, opposition briefings. Should I connect with JERI and Naveen on the stakeholder piece?

Let me know what you think. Thanks!

Aileen Machell (she/her) Communications Director Health Communications 250-361-5381

<Itinerary\_Aug 23 DRAFT.docx>

#### FW: Monday 9:15 briefing start time including education

From Moran, Roseanne <Roseanne.Moran@leg.bc.ca>

To: Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>, Bernard, Tabitha PREM:EX

<Tabitha.Bernard@gov.bc.ca>, Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>, Nash,

Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Nash@gov.bc.ca>, Hockin, Amber PREM:EX

<Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Girn, Naveen PREM:EX <Naveen.Girn@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX

<Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 22, 2021 9:47:53 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

From: Moran, Roseanne < Roseanne. Moran@leg.bc.ca>

Sent: August 22, 2021 9:46 AM

To: NDP MLAs - PRIVATE & Exec Director \$.17

**Cc:** NDP Management Staff < NDPManagementStaff@leg.bc.ca> **Subject:** Monday 9:15 briefing start time including education

Hi all. Tomorrow morning's briefing will now include Ministers Kang and Whiteside as well as Minister Dix to brief on upcoming announcements. Calendars will be updated first thing Monday. Thanks.

From: Moran, Roseanne

Sent: August 20, 2021 2:25 PM

To: NDP MLAs - PRIVATE & Exec Director<sup>\$.17</sup>

Cc: NDP Management Staff < NDPManagementStaff@leg.bc.ca >

Subject: Briefings week of August 23

Hi everyone. As this week draws to a close, a reminder that while we do not have a caucus meeting booked next week, we have three briefings set up for caucus. Information should be in your calendars (health one just being sent out now.) The briefings are optional but you are encouraged to attend if you can. Thanks and have good weekends.

Monday, August 23 - 9:30 to 10:30 - Minister Dix will briefing on government's plans for proof of vaccination Wednesday, August 25 - 11 am – Minister Heyman on the IPCC report and Clean BC Thursday, August 26 - 1 pm with Minister Dean – giving an update on programs and issues in Children & Family Development.

**Roseanne Moran** | Executive Director | New Democrat BC Government Caucus T: 778-835-7537 E: roseanne.moran@leg.bc.ca

#### **Proof of Vaccination [Minister Social Media Calendar]**

Stephanie Ferguson via Asana <no-reply@asana.com> From:

To: sage.aaron@gov.bc.ca, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 9:08:32 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.



### Stephanie Ferguson added to Minister Social Media Calendar

View in Asana

Task

#### **Proof of Vaccination**

Due Assigned to date

Description

s.13

**Projects** 

Minister Social Media Calendar

Stephanie Ferguson added to Minister Social Media Calendar Aug 23, 2021 at 8:08am New

Copyright

#### RE: Approval needed: materials for today's announcement

From: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>

To: Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX

<Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 9:49:29 AM PDT

Attachments: Vaccine proof news release 4pm aug 22.docx, Proof of Vaccine KMQA 4pm

Aug 22.docx

So sorry Don! We will make sure you're included moving forward.

Here are the materials, waiting for final approval.

Thanks and best wishes,

Aileen

From: Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 9:45 AM

To: Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Approval needed: materials for today's announcement

Good morning Stephen and Aileen,

A reminder, please add my email address to emails for Chief of Staff and Deputy Chief of Staff.

I appreciate it. Thank you.

#### Don Bain

**Deputy Chief of Staff** 

Office of the Premier | Government of British Columbia

740 - 999 Canada Place

Vancouver BC V6C 3E1 | C: 604.992.2601

E-mail: don.bain@gov.bc.ca

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s.13

#### Proof of Vaccine Q&A: August 23, 2021

#### **Key Messages:**

#### **Primary messaging**

Getting vaccinated is a choice.

You can choose to be vaccinated, to protect yourself, protect your loved ones, and protect your community.

You can choose to be vaccinated to protect kids who can't get vaccinated, and those who have higher risk of severe illness or who may not develop as strong an immune response.

By choosing to get vaccinated, you choose to support local restaurants. To attend family weddings. To attend a Lions Game or Canucks Game. To go to spin class or hot yoga. To attend indoor festivals and events. To take in a concert.

This is your choice, and you can make it a positive one.

You have the power. You have the time.

Let's do this. Let's get it done.

You are also free to make other choices, and those choices have consequences.

Our hope is that you make the positive choice - get vaccinated.

#### Primary – what we are announcing

- Proof of vaccination will soon be required to access certain social and recreational events, services and businesses to help protect people from COVID-19.
- We've always said getting vaccinated is a choice.
- And getting vaccinated is the best choice to protect yourself, the people
  you love, and to ensure you can continue to participate in these public and
  private events and settings.
- If you want to keep attending these events and settings, you will need to be vaccinated. Book your appointment today.

- This isn't happening overnight we're giving everyone advanced notice that this is coming soon, so people can book vaccine appointments and get ready.
- As of September 13<sup>th</sup>, people will need to at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine to enter these spaces:
  - o Indoor ticketed sporting events
  - o Indoor concerts
  - o Indoor theatre/dance/symphony events
  - o Restaurants (indoor and patio dining)
  - o Night Clubs
  - o Casinos
  - Movie Theatres
  - Fitness centres/gyms (excluding youth recreational sport)
  - o Businesses offering indoor high intensity group exercise
  - Organized indoor events (ex. weddings, parties, conferences, meetings, workshops)
  - Discretionary organized indoor group recreational classes and activities (excluding k-12 schools, before and after school programs)
- The specifics will be outlined in the PHO Order.
- As of October<sup>s.13</sup> people need to be fully vaccinated with two doses, with s.13 days passing after receiving the final COVID-19 vaccine dose to access these same spaces.
  - Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13. Individuals will be able to save a copy of their proof of vaccination to their phone to show when entering or using designated businesses and events.
- A second, secure option will be provided for people who can't access the
  website through a provincial call-in centre. Details on the call centre to be
  shared in the coming days.
- We will continue to work with businesses over the coming weeks, so they
  have the support and information they need before this comes into effect.

#### **Secondary messaging:**

 Getting vaccinated keeps everyone in B.C. safe and stops the spread of COVID-19.

- B.C. is underway with the largest immunization effort in the province's history.
- So far, close to 75 per cent of all eligible people have been fully vaccinated.
- This is excellent progress, but there is still more work to do.
- Public health continues to closely monitor case counts, hospitalizations, and deaths. We are still seeing a surge in cases primarily in groups of unvaccinated people.
- Roughly 90 per cent of recent cases are occurring in people who have not been fully vaccinated.
- We know the best way to put this pandemic behind us is through vaccines.
- They are safe, effective and allow us to return to doing the things we love.
- There are people who can't receive the vaccine for medical reasons or are not eligible (under the age of 12)— we need to keep boosting our vaccination rates to protect these people from transmission of COVID-19.

#### **Questions and Answers**

#### What are you announcing today?

- We are announcing that effective September 13th, people will be required to provide proof of vaccination in order to participate in certain social, recreational and indoor activities.
- The initial requirement is for at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Starting October s.13 people will need to be fully vaccinated s.13 ) to enter these settings.
- This is an important step to continue increasing our vaccination rate across the province and make our communities safer from COVID-19.

#### Where is proof of vaccination required in B.C?

- Vaccination is required in B.C. in the following settings:
  - o Indoor ticketed sporting events

- o Indoor concerts
- o Indoor theatre/dance/symphony events
- o Restaurants (indoor dining and outdoor patios)
- o Night Clubs
- o Casinos
- o Movie Theatres
- o Fitness centres/gyms (excluding youth recreational sport)
- o Businesses offering high intensity group exercise
- Organized indoor events (ex. weddings, parties, conferences, meetings, workshops)
- Discretionary organized indoor group recreational classes and activities (excluding k-12 schools, before and after school programs)

#### What will a proof-of-vaccination certificate look like? How would I use it?

- Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13.
- A second, secure option will be provided for people who can't access the website.
- People will need to present their proof of vaccination, and ID in order to enter the specific settings outlined today.
- This proof of vaccination will be an interim solution as we work to transition to a federally compliant proof of vaccine later this fall.

#### What will I need to get my proof of vaccination?

- Details will be widely publicized well in advance of September 13.
- People will need to present their:
  - Name
  - Date of birth
  - Personal health number

#### Who did you consult with on the decision-making process?

- Throughout the entire pandemic, we have been working closely with stakeholders across a broad spectrum.
- We know that province-wide lockdowns are hard, not only on businesses, but on people and communities, too.
- That's why these new measures will make sure businesses can stay open and continue to serve their clientele with much lower risk of potential transmission.

 We have started and will continue with engagement with First Nations and Indigenous communities over the next several weeks as we move forward with these measures.

#### How will you get the message out to businesses affected?

- Ministers across government, including the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation are working hard to keep their stakeholders informed and updated with these changes.
- These new requirements will be effective starting September 13.
- We will continue to work closely with our partners, stakeholders and business community to keep people informed with the latest information.

#### How will you get the message out to British Columbians?

- Throughout the entire pandemic, British Columbians have stepped up and come together to keep each other safe.
- These new proof of vaccine requirements will help keep everyone safe and prevent the transmission of COVID-19 and allow all those who are already vaccinated to safely continue all important social activities.
- We will continue to provide British Columbians with the latest information through our government channels.

#### What are you hoping to get out of the mandatory proof of vaccinations?

- While COVID is still with us, vaccines have changed the way we live and deal with the virus.
- While vaccines have always been a choice, there may be some things people can't do unless they are vaccinated.
- Getting vaccinated protects yourself and your community and it's important that more people get vaccinated to make us all safer.
- Proof of vaccines is an important tool the province is using to boost vaccination rates and help put this pandemic behind us.

#### How would my privacy be protected?

- We've engaged B.C.'s Information and Privacy Commissioner office on our plan and the process for accessing COVID-19 vaccination information.
- Our website will be secure, and the details will be widely publicized ahead of September
   13.

5

 No copy or record will be kept by the business or event, and it is at the discretion of the individual to show the information.

## What steps has B.C. taken in exploring privacy considerations around a pan-Canadian vaccine passport/proof-of-vaccination certificate?

- We have engaged the B.C.'s Privacy Commissioner office on the proof-of-vaccination plan.
- This plan allows us to implement a vaccine requirement in certain recreational and social settings as of September 13.
- Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13.
- This vaccine card will be an interim solution as we work to transition to a federally compliant proof of vaccine this fall.
- Government has also been engaging the Information and Privacy Commission on this work.
- The briefings emphasize work being done collaboratively by all provinces and the federal government for a single, pan-Canadian proof-of-vaccination certificate for international travel, with the federal government as the lead.
- The briefings have also included the privacy principles considered for any proposed technical solutions, such as sharing the minimum information necessary.
- We will continue to work with B.C.'s privacy commissioner office and seek advice as we move forward with this initiative and a pan-Canadian solution is developed.

#### When will this start?

- On September 13, people will be required to provide proof of vaccination in order to visit indoor social settings like restaurants, bars, high-intensity fitness, and theatres.
   The first stage will require partial vaccination (at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine) to enter these settings.
- By Octobe<sup>s.13</sup> people must be fully vaccinated (at least <sup>s.1</sup><sub>3</sub> days after their second dose of COVID-19 vaccine) to enter these settings.

s.13

• Full vaccination may be required earlier in areas of high-transmission as designated by the local medical health officer.

#### Will people be using their existing proof of vaccine cards?

No, our new process will be more secure. Printed copies are more easily forged.

- Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13.
- There will also be a secure option for those who can't access the web link.

#### My immunization record is wrong or I was vaccinated outside of BC. What should I do?

- You should update your immunization record if you got dose one or two in another province or country or if you believe your immunization status is wrong.
- You can update your immunization record here: https://www.immunizationrecord.gov.bc.ca/
- It takes 2-3 weeks to update your immunization record.
- If you have proof of vaccination from another province, you can use it to demonstrate your immunization status.

#### I haven't been vaccinated yet. What should I do?

- If you haven't been vaccinated yet, there are still many quick and easy ways to do so.
- Communities throughout B.C. have drop-in clinics and are open 7 days a week.
- You don't need to register online or by phone before you arrive.
- You can find a walk-in clinic near you here: https://www2.qa.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/vaxforbc
- You can also make an appointment to be vaccinated if that works better for you
- To register and get make an appointment to get vaccinated, visit <a href="https://www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/s/">https://www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/s/</a> or call 1-833-838-2323

# Will a second piece of government issued ID be required to insure a person is who they say they are?

- Yes, people will need to present their proof of vaccination and a piece of government issued identification to enter these settings while the PHO Order is in place.
- For people aged 12-17, proof of vaccination will suffice.

#### What proof of immunization will be required for non-British Columbians?

- Proof of vaccination from other jurisdictions will be required for travelers visiting the province who are entering the settings outlined today.
- We will be communicating this requirement to other provinces.

- Local businesses will be able to download an easy-to-use reference visual checklist of documents used in other jurisdictions from the BCCDC website. We are working on mechanisms to verify proof of vaccinations from other jurisdictions, and more information will be provided soon.
- This is similar to what many businesses currently use for proof of age.

#### For out of Canada visitors?

- For foreign travellers, they will need to use proof of vaccination and ID from their home jurisdictions.
- Most travellers now need to be fully vaccinated to enter the country.

### How will you be able to ensure that outside of BC proof of vaccination is not fake?

- The proof of vaccination would need to match the format for the relevant jurisdiction, as set out in the document on the BCCDC website.
- Individuals from outside the province will show that proof of vaccination, alongside valid government identification.

# What steps will be taken to ensure that those under 12 are not spreading COVID in these settings?

- The best strategy is for those who are eligible to get vaccinated; having all people over age 12 vaccinated protects children who are not yet eligible and ensures they don't become infected themselves or transmit the virus.
- While not all British Columbians can be vaccinated, these measures are to assist us in reducing overall transmission in these settings throughout the fall and winter.
- We will continue to monitor transmission by age groups and publicly post these data on the BCCDC website.
- They are based on our strong recommendation that every eligible individual in BC get themselves vaccinated this is the best way to protect yourself, your family and friends, and your community.

### What support will be put in place to support businesses navigating these new rules?

- Throughout the entire pandemic, we have been working closely with stakeholders across a broad spectrum.
- We know that province-wide lockdowns are hard not only on businesses, but on people and communities, too.

- That's why these new measures will make sure businesses can stay open and continue to serve their clientele with much lower risk of potential transmission.
- We expect all businesses to comply with this order and will be engaging and working with them over the next several weeks.
- The Provincial Health Officer Order provides a solid basis for businesses to use this approach and removes any risk of them individually having to defend its use.
- All businesses will be provided with a download showing acceptable proof of vaccine from other Canadian jurisdictions.

### Does this apply to patios or just in-door dining?

This applies to indoor dining, including patios, but not drive-thrus and takeouts

#### Has any other province implemented a proof of vaccine process?

- Manitoba has the "Manitoba Digital Immunization Card" along with physical Manitoba Immunization Cards. These cards will include your first and last names and a QR code. When scanned with the Manitoba Immunization Card app. the QR code will show that you are fully vaccinated.
- Quebec has a PDF digital proof of vaccination. It shows an individual's personal
  information, the vaccines they have received, the result of their first positive COVID-19
  screening test if they received a vaccine dose at least 21 days after the screening test, and a QR
  code containing the above information.

#### How will you enforce businesses' compliance with the order?

- We expect everyone to comply with these orders to protect public health.
- We've worked with businesses throughout the pandemic and we expect they will comply.
- If there are outliers that don't comply, we will address it.

#### What vaccines will be accepted?

- Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty, tozinameran, BNT162b2)
- Moderna (mRNA-1273)
- AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD (ChAdOx1-S, Vaxzevria, AZD1222)
- Janssen/Johnson & Johnson (Ad26.COV2.S)

#### What supports will businesses be provided?

- Throughout the entire pandemic, we have been working closely with stakeholders across a broad spectrum.
- We know that province-wide lockdowns are hard not only on businesses, but on people and communities, too.
- That's why these new measures will make sure businesses can stay open and continue to serve their clientele with much lower risk of potential transmission.
- We will be engaging with the business community over the next several weeks and providing communication ahead of the September 13 effective date.
- All businesses will be provided with a download showing acceptable proof of vaccine from other Canadian jurisdictions.
- We ask British Columbians to be kind.

#### Are you concerned about people forging the proof of vaccination?

- British Columbians have gotten through this pandemic by supporting one another, and we trust people will continue to do their part by following these new rules.
- Businesses will be supported to ensure compliance.
- It would take a certain kind of person to forge a public health document and put others at risk, just to go to a restaurant.
- And don't forget, forging a government document may result in criminal charges or other legal proceedings.

# Why not require proof of vaccination for [x setting] (schools, congregate living incl. shelters or group homes etc.)?

- It remains vital that people continue to have access to essential services, regardless of their vaccination status.
- Getting more people vaccinated will make us all safer in every setting.
- The measures are aimed at reducing transmission by unvaccinated people at recreational and social events and activities.
- People have a choice choose to get vaccinated to protect yourself, your loved ones
  and your community. Or don't get vaccinated and stay away from these social and
  recreational settings.
- There will be tailored plans for schools and post-secondaries, and we will have more to say on this shortly.
- Other businesses or institutions may choose to adopt their own vaccination policies beyond the designated settings but would be responsible for doing their own due diligence.

# Are you still considering extending the proof of vaccine requirement to other settings (incl. health care)?

• We continue to look at all options to protect people in B.C., based on the evidence-based advice from public health.

#### Will the workers in these establishments need to be vaccinated?

- We aren't making vaccination mandatory for employment at this time, other than in specific areas of the health system starting with Long Term Care and Assisted Living Facilities.
- However, we continue to monitor the data and look at all options to keep people safe in B.C., based on the evidence-based advice from public health.
- We expect the measures announced today will encourage the vast majority of people working in these settings to be vaccinated, in order to continue to attend the specified social and recreational events and settings.
- Businesses or institutions may choose to adopt their own vaccination policies beyond the designated settings but would be responsible for doing their own due diligence.

#### Will there be vaccination mandates for workers in other high-risk settings?

- We aren't making vaccination mandatory for employment at this time, other than in specific areas of the health system starting with Long Term Care and Assisted Living Facilities.
- However, we continue to monitor the data and look at all options to keep people safe in B.C., based on the evidence-based advice from public health.

#### Why didn't you do this earlier?

- Vaccines have changed the way we live with COVID-19 and have helped us greatly in getting back to the things we love to do.
- But COVID-19 is still with us, and more transmissible variants like the Delta variant mean it can spread rapidly, even among vaccinated people.
- Most people in B.C. have stepped up, getting two doses of vaccine to protect themselves and their communities.
- But it is clear that further action is needed to help put this pandemic behind us we need more protection, in the form of even higher vaccination rates.

#### What about drive-throughs?

 Proof of vaccination is not required for drive-thru restaurants, as long as the food is not taken inside the establishment to eat.

### Why do people not have to be fully vaccinated until October<sup>s.13</sup>

- We want everyone to get vaccinated now and be able to continue supporting these places.
- Younger people have only been eligible to be vaccinated for a few months.
- And summer is a busy time for many. We know things like work and family schedules may make it difficult for some people to find the time to get the vaccine.
- A phased implementation gives people the time they need to get vaccinated, with both doses of vaccine.

#### Will I need a vaccine passport/proof-of-vaccination certificate to travel internationally?

- B.C. is working with the federal government and other provinces and territories on what a proof-of-vaccination certificate might look like for Canadians for international travel, with the federal government as the lead.
- It is anticipated to be ready this fall.
- s.13; s.16

# Will I need a proof-of-vaccination certificate to access private sector supports, programs or services?

• The order will only apply to the list of settings identified in the PHO Order.

# If a person is asked to provide proof of vaccination to, for example, access services, business premises or to attend an event in B.C., what should they do?

- If you aren't vaccinated, register for your vaccine now! Or walk-into a vaccine clinic.
- Prior to attending an event or business that requires proof of vaccination, individuals will need to access their proof of vaccination record.
- People will be able to securely and confidentially access their proof of vaccination online.

- At admission to one of the designated businesses or activities, individuals will show their proof of vaccination (phone or paper copy) and show 1 other piece of ID such as Driver's licence or BC Services Card to confirm identify.
- No copy or record will be kept by the business or event, and it is at the discretion of the individual to show the information.

# Will you introduce legislation/regulation to guide businesses in the private sector that might want to require proof of vaccination?

- No.
- Employers are accountable for ensuring their workers' safety and should have in place COVID-19 safety plans – including a requirement to stay home when sick, and regular hand washing.
- Employers may decide to implement additional safety measures, including the decision to require vaccination for their employees, or specific requirements for staff working in their businesses who are not vaccinated, such as more frequent rapid testing and/or mask wearing.
- Given the higher transmissibility of the delta variant, all businesses should review the adequacy of their plans.

# Will the proof of vaccination requirement apply to employees at venues (concert halls, restaurants etc.) covered by the vaccination mandate?

- We aren't making vaccination mandatory for employment, other than in specific areas of the health system starting with Long Term Care and Assisted Living Facilities.
- Employers are accountable for ensuring their workers' safety and should have in place COVID-19 safety plans – including a requirement to stay home when sick, mask wearing where appropriate and regular hand washing.
- Given the higher transmissibility of the delta variant, all businesses should review the adequacy of their plans.
- We continue to monitor the data and look at all options to keep people safe in B.C., based on the evidence-based advice from public health.
- The initiatives announced today are to assist in reducing overall transmission over the fall and winter.
- We strongly recommend that every eligible individual in BC get themselves vaccinated this is the best way to protect yourself, your family and friends, and your community.

Will businesses/organizations be able to set their own requirement for proof of vaccine in venues beyond those covered by the PHO order?

- We are introducing a provincial proof of vaccine requirement for designated settings removes the need for these businesses to set their own vaccine requirement.
- The PHO Order provides a solid basis for businesses to use this approach and prevents them from having to defend any action they might have taken individually in this regard.
- The use of additional measures in other settings will be an individual business decision.
- We recommend that any further actions are based on the evidence-based guidance provided by BCCDC.
- Again, the initiatives announced today are to assist in reducing overall transmission over the fall and winter considering the experience of the Delta variance on transmission.

# Will post secondary institutions be permitted to adopt their own proof of vaccine requirement that applies beyond student residences and varsity sports?

- We believe strongly in the importance of returning to campus-based teaching for postsecondary institutions this fall.
- We urge every eligible person in B.C. to get vaccinated this is the best way to protect yourself, your family and friends, and your community.
- There will be a requirement to be vaccinated to live in a post-secondary residence; as well as the requirement announced today for proof of vaccination to access a range of social and recreational settings and services. This requirement will apply to those same settings on post-secondary campuses
- Again, the initiatives announced today are to assist in reducing overall transmission over the fall and winter considering the experience of the Delta variance on transmission.
- Post-secondary institutions, like other businesses or organizations, may choose to adopt their own vaccination policies beyond the PHO order, but would be required to do their own due diligence.

#### Are libraries included?

No.

# What about outdoor events like the PNE and fairs that have indoor components like barns and indoor attractions that visitors attend?

- Proof of vaccination would be required to access designated spaces.
- For example, an indoor restaurant or beer garden.

### News release for 1pm

From: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>

To: GCPE Editors <GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>

Cc: GCPE Communications - COVID HLTH <CommHcovid@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>,

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<Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 11:19:20 AM PDT

Attachments: Vaccine proof news release FINAL.docx

Hello,

Please see the attached news release for publishing at 1pm today, upon PO and my approval.

Thanks!

**Aileen Machell** (she/her) Communications Director Health Communications

250-361-5381

For Immediate Release [release number]

Ministry of Health

August 23, 2021

#### Province launches proof of vaccination to protect people and stop the spread of COVID-19

VICTORIA – Starting September 13, proof of vaccination will be required in B.C. for people attending certain social and recreational settings and events. This important step will continue to increase the vaccination rate across the province and provide confidence to fully vaccinated people that those around them are also fully vaccinated.

"Vaccines are our ticket to putting this pandemic behind us," said Premier John Horgan. "So I call on all eligible unvaccinated British Columbians to roll up their sleeves to stop the spread, and help protect themselves, their loved ones, and the people in their community. British Columbia has one of the strongest vaccination rates in Canada with 75 per cent of eligible people now fully vaccinated, but there is still more work to do."

A new Order from the Provincial Health Officer will require individuals to provide proof of vaccination to access a broad range of social, recreational, and discretionary events and businesses throughout the province. As of September 13, one dose of vaccine will be required for entry to these settings. By October 24, entry to these settings will require people to be fully vaccinated, at least 7 days after receiving both doses. To enter certain spaces, including indoor ticketed sporting events, indoor and patio dining in restaurants, fitness centres, casinos, and indoor organized events like conferences and weddings, people aged 12 and older will be required to show their proof of vaccination.

"I am grateful to every single person who has taken the time to receive their COVID-19 vaccine," said Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer. "While our vaccination rate continues to rise, we are still seeing waves of transmission primarily amongst those who are not fully vaccinated. These new measures will help reduce transmission and keep our communities safe and ensure we can continue to keep businesses open and safely enjoy much needed social events."

A secure web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13, where people will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination. Individuals will be able to save a copy of their proof of vaccination to their phone to show when entering or using designated businesses and events. Individuals who cannot access their proof of vaccination online will be provided with a secure alternative option.

"Getting vaccinated keeps everyone in B.C. safe and stops the spread of COVID-19," said Adrian Dix, Minister of Health. "And getting vaccinated is the best choice to protect yourself, the

people you love, and to ensure you can continue to participate in these public and private events and settings. Our B.C. vaccine card is an essential interim action until we transition to a federally compliant proof of vaccine."

By getting vaccinated prior to September 13, every British Columbian can continue to access these events and settings.

Details on specific COVID-19 safety requirements for K-12 and post-secondary schools will be available this week.

### **BACKGROUNDER**

#### How it works

- As of September 13, people in British Columbia will be required to be partially vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine to access certain businesses and events.
- As of October 24, people in British Columbia will be required to be fully immunized, at least 7 days after receiving two doses of COVID-19 vaccine, to access the same list of businesses and events.
- In the interim, in areas where community transmission is increased significantly or where there are outbreaks, the requirements to be fully vaccinated to access these events and activities may be required at the direction of the local Medical Health Officer.
- A full list of settings where proof of vaccination will be required is available here:
  - o Indoor ticketed sporting events
  - o Indoor concerts
  - o Indoor theatre/dance/symphony events
  - o Restaurants (indoor and patio dining)
  - o Night Clubs
  - o Casinos
  - o Movie Theatres
  - o Fitness centres/gyms (excluding youth recreational sport)

- o Businesses offering indoor high intensity group exercise activities
- Organized indoor events (ex. weddings, parties, conferences, meetings, workshops)
- o Discretionary organized indoor group recreational classes and activities
- Individual businesses or event organizers may also implement these requirement earlier
  as part of their ongoing safety plans. Businesses or institutions choosing to adopt their
  own vaccination policies beyond those set out in this order will be responsible for doing
  their own due diligence.
- Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13. To access proof of vaccination an individual will need:
  - o Name
  - Date-of-birth
  - o Personal health number (PHN)
- Individuals will be able to save a copy of their proof of vaccination to their phone to show when entering or using designated businesses and events.
- A second, secure option will be provided for people who cannot access their proof of vaccination online through a call-in centre (call centre details to be made public in coming days).
- Individuals will show proof of vaccination in the settings listed in the PHO Order, alongside valid government ID.
- Proof of vaccination will also be required for people visiting from outside of B.C. using a
  provincially/territorially recognized official record alongside valid government ID from
  the jurisdiction. For individuals visiting from outside of Canada, they will be required
  show their proof of vaccination used to enter the country and their passport.
- The measures will be time limited through to January 31, 2022, subject to possible extension.
- The measures set out above to not apply to K-12 schools (public and independent) and before and after school programs for students. Student-only events and activities within

K to 12 public and independent schools and before and after school programs are excluded from providing a proof of vaccine as they will be covered by specific guidelines for school and childcare settings. Guidance for these settings related to students will be provided in the coming days. The measures do apply to large indoor events (theatre, concerts) attended by parents, family and/or the public.

The measures set out above will as relevant, apply to post-secondary campuses. Student
housing will be a part of the public health order identifying where proof of vaccination is
required and will be in effect for September 7. Further guidance for these settings
related to students will be developed in the coming days in consultation with public
health, including which types of student housing facilities will be included.

#### **BACKGROUNDER 2**

#### How to get vaccinated and stay safe from COVID-19

To get the most effective protection against serious cases of COVID-19, you need two doses of vaccine. If you haven't been vaccinated yet, or it's time for your second dose (at least 28 days since your first dose), book or visit a drop-in clinic and get protected from COVID-19.

You can register and book an appointment at <a href="www2.gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated">www2.gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated</a>.

Search by community to find a drop-in clinic near you. Clinics are organized by each health authority:

- Fraser Health
- Vancouver Coastal Health
- Island Health
- Interior Health
- Northern Health

Visit your local health authority website for more information on clinic hours and locations:

- Fraser Health
- Vancouver Coastal Health
- Island Health
- Interior Health
- Northern Health

### Final versions - proof of vaccine announcement

From: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>

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Sent: August 23, 2021 11:46:38 AM PDT

Attachments: Vaccine proof news release FINAL.docx, Proof of Vaccine KMQA FINAL.docx

Thanks Sage.

Final KM/QA and news release attached, for the group.

Best wishes, Aileen

From: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** August 23, 2021 9:58 AM

**To:** Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX <Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca>; Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca>; Wanamaker, Lori PREM:EX <Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX <Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>; Moulton, Holly HLTH:EX <Holly.Moulton@gov.bc.ca>; Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX <Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Approval needed: materials for today's announcement

Approved with thanks on PO's end

Sage (she/her) 778-678-0832

From: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX < Aileen. Machell@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 8:29 AM

To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <<u>Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <<u>Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX <<u>Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <<u>Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX <<u>Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <<u>Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Wanamaker, Lori PREM:EX <Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX < Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>; Moulton, Holly HLTH:EX < Holly.Moulton@gov.bc.ca>; Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX < Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX < Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** Approval needed: materials for today's announcement

Good morning,

Attaching clean copies with Dr. Henry's edits included. I think these are close to final, just seeking approval from PO and Minister Dix. Please let me know if these are approved, or if changes are required.

Thanks, Aileen

From: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 22, 2021 5:25 PM

To: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <<u>Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <<u>Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX <<u>Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <<u>Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX <<u>Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <<u>Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Wanamaker, Lori PREM:EX <<u>Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca</u>>

Cc: van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX < Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>; Moulton, Holly HLTH:EX < Holly.Moulton@gov.bc.ca>; Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX < Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX

<Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** RE: Updated materials for tomorrow's announcement A few minor suggestions/corrections in the attached from me.

**Bonnie** 

Dr Bonnie Henry Provincial Health Officer Office of the PHO Ministry of Health s.15; s.19

#### Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca

Phone: s.17; s.19

I gratefully acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional unceded territory of the Lekwungen Peoples, specifically the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. Hay'sxw'qu Si'em

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From: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** August 22, 2021 4:39 PM

To: Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <<u>Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX <<u>Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <<u>Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX <<u>Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <<u>Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Wanamaker, Lori PREM:EX <<u>Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <<u>Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca</u>>

Cc: van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX < Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca >; Moulton, Holly HLTH:EX < Holly.Moulton@gov.bc.ca >; Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX < Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca >; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX < Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca >

Subject: Updated materials for tomorrow's announcement

Good afternoon.

Please see the attached materials for tomorrow. We've incorporated edits provided by the group.

I understand Dr. Henry will have another review for accuracy, and I will send updated versions if there are changes. Let me know if you have any comments or concerns in the meantime.

Thank you,

Aileen

From: Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 22, 2021 10:53 AM

To: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX < Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca >; Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX < Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca >; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX < Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca >; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX < Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca >; Wanamaker, Lori PREM:EX < Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca >; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX < Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca >

Cc: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX < Aileen. Machell@gov.bc.ca >; van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX

<<u>Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Moulton, Holly HLTH:EX <<u>Holly.Moulton@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX <<u>Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca</u>>

Subject: RE: New Release Sunday 10.30am.docx

Hi All

Here are the refreshed documents based on feedback received (including feedback from JERRI, Education and AEST). These are essentially good to go with the exception of a few areas (highlighted in yellow) that need agreement and subject to discussion below.

I have added a discussion document that tries to addresss.13

several individuals and brought forward to me by Lori. I have worked with Corrie B and just had a meeting with IMSBC to clarify the practicality of one of the options (option 4) which will be worked through today. s. 13

s.13 A key discussion for later today, assuming we

have a late afternoon meeting, is what is the comfort level on moving forward based on one of the practical options available to us with their respective pros and cons. Regards Steve

From: Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX Sent: August 20, 2021 1:36 PM

To: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX <<u>Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <<u>Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX <<u>Amber.Hockin@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <<u>Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca</u>>; Wanamaker, Lori PREM:EX <<u>Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca</u>>

Cc: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX < Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca >; Pokorny, Peter HLTH:EX < Peter.Pokorny@gov.bc.ca >; Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX < Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca >; van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX < Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca >; Moulton, Holly HLTH:EX < Holly.Moulton@gov.bc.ca >; Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX < Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca >

Subject: New Release 1.00pm.docx

Hi All

Here are the draft materials for Monday (speeches and event schedule to be developed). These material have been developed with MOH GCPE and reviewed/further edited by myself and Bonnie. Please provide any feedback to Aileen and cc me by noon tomorrow and we will do a second and hopefully final draft by mid-morning Sunday. Aileen and Jeff with develop speaking notes and an events plan over the weekend in consultation with premier's office, Minister Dix and Bonnie. Thanks Steve

Page 212 of 327 to/à Page 215 of 327

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

### Proof of Vaccine Q&A: August 23, 2021

### **Key Messages:**

### **Primary messaging**

Getting vaccinated is a choice.

You can choose to be vaccinated, to protect yourself, protect your loved ones, and protect your community.

You can choose to be vaccinated to protect kids who can't get vaccinated, and those who have higher risk of severe illness or who may not develop as strong an immune response.

By choosing to get vaccinated, you choose to support local restaurants. To attend family weddings. To attend a Lions Game or Canucks Game. To go to spin class or hot yoga. To attend indoor festivals and events. To take in a concert.

This is your choice, and you can make it a positive one.

You have the power. You have the time.

Let's do this. Let's get it done.

You are also free to make other choices, and those choices have consequences.

Our hope is that you make the positive choice - get vaccinated.

#### Primary – what we are announcing

- Proof of vaccination will soon be required to access certain social and recreational events, services and businesses to help protect people from COVID-19.
- We've always said getting vaccinated is a choice.
- And getting vaccinated is the best choice to protect yourself, the people
  you love, and to ensure you can continue to participate in these public and
  private events and settings.
- If you want to keep attending these events and settings, you will need to be vaccinated. Book your appointment today.

- This isn't happening overnight we're giving everyone advanced notice that this is coming soon, so people can book vaccine appointments and get ready.
- As of September 13<sup>th</sup>, people will need to at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine to enter these spaces:
  - o Indoor ticketed sporting events
  - o Indoor concerts
  - o Indoor theatre/dance/symphony events
  - o Restaurants (indoor and patio dining)
  - o Night Clubs
  - o Casinos
  - o Movie Theatres
  - o Fitness centres/gyms (excluding youth recreational sport)
  - o Businesses offering indoor high intensity group exercise
  - Organized indoor events (ex. weddings, parties, conferences, meetings, workshops)
  - Discretionary organized indoor group recreational classes and activities (excluding k-12 schools, before and after school programs)
- The specifics will be outlined in the PHO Order.
- As of October 24th, people need to be fully vaccinated with two doses, with at least 7 days passing after receiving the final COVID-19 vaccine dose to access these same spaces.
  - Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13. Individuals will be able to save a copy of their proof of vaccination to their phone to show when entering or using designated businesses and events.
- A second, secure option will be provided for people who can't access the
  website through a provincial call-in centre. Details on the call centre to be
  shared in the coming days.
- We will continue to work with businesses over the coming weeks, so they
  have the support and information they need before this comes into effect.

### **Secondary messaging:**

 Getting vaccinated keeps everyone in B.C. safe and stops the spread of COVID-19.

- B.C. is underway with the largest immunization effort in the province's history.
- So far, close to 75 per cent of all eligible people have been fully vaccinated.
- This is excellent progress, but there is still more work to do.
- Public health continues to closely monitor case counts, hospitalizations, and deaths. We are still seeing a surge in cases primarily in groups of unvaccinated people.
- Roughly 90 per cent of recent cases are occurring in people who have not been fully vaccinated.
- We know the best way to put this pandemic behind us is through vaccines.
- They are safe, effective and allow us to return to doing the things we love.
- There are people who can't receive the vaccine for medical reasons or are not eligible (under the age of 12)— we need to keep boosting our vaccination rates to protect these people from transmission of COVID-19.

#### **Questions and Answers**

#### What are you announcing today?

- We are announcing that effective September 13th, people will be required to provide proof of vaccination in order to participate in certain social, recreational and indoor activities.
- The initial requirement is for at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Starting October 24<sup>th</sup>, people will need to be fully vaccinated (7 or more days after dose 2) to enter these settings.
- This is an important step to continue increasing our vaccination rate across the province and make our communities safer from COVID-19.

#### Where is proof of vaccination required in B.C?

- Vaccination is required in B.C. in the following settings:
  - o Indoor ticketed sporting events

- o Indoor concerts
- o Indoor theatre/dance/symphony events
- o Restaurants (indoor dining and outdoor patios)
- o Night Clubs
- o Casinos
- o Movie Theatres
- o Fitness centres/gyms (excluding youth recreational sport)
- o Businesses offering high intensity group exercise
- Organized indoor events (ex. weddings, parties, conferences, meetings, workshops)
- Discretionary organized indoor group recreational classes and activities (excluding k-12 schools, before and after school programs)

#### What will a proof-of-vaccination certificate look like? How would I use it?

- Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13.
- A second, secure option will be provided for people who can't access the website.
- People will need to present their proof of vaccination, and ID in order to enter the specific settings outlined today.
- This proof of vaccination will be an interim solution as we work to transition to a federally compliant proof of vaccine later this fall.

#### What will I need to get my proof of vaccination?

- Details will be widely publicized well in advance of September 13.
- People will need to present their:
  - Name
  - Date of birth
  - Personal health number

#### Who did you consult with on the decision-making process?

- Throughout the entire pandemic, we have been working closely with stakeholders across a broad spectrum.
- We know that province-wide lockdowns are hard, not only on businesses, but on people and communities, too.
- That's why these new measures will make sure businesses can stay open and continue to serve their clientele with much lower risk of potential transmission.

 We have started and will continue with engagement with First Nations and Indigenous communities over the next several weeks as we move forward with these measures.

#### How will you get the message out to businesses affected?

- Ministers across government, including the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation are working hard to keep their stakeholders informed and updated with these changes.
- These new requirements will be effective starting September 13.
- We will continue to work closely with our partners, stakeholders and business community to keep people informed with the latest information.

### How will you get the message out to British Columbians?

- Throughout the entire pandemic, British Columbians have stepped up and come together to keep each other safe.
- These new proof of vaccine requirements will help keep everyone safe and prevent the transmission of COVID-19 and allow all those who are already vaccinated to safely continue all important social activities.
- We will continue to provide British Columbians with the latest information through our government channels.

#### What are you hoping to get out of the mandatory proof of vaccinations?

- While COVID is still with us, vaccines have changed the way we live and deal with the virus.
- While vaccines have always been a choice, there may be some things people can't do unless they are vaccinated.
- Getting vaccinated protects yourself and your community and it's important that more people get vaccinated to make us all safer.
- Proof of vaccines is an important tool the province is using to boost vaccination rates and help put this pandemic behind us.

#### How would my privacy be protected?

- We've engaged B.C.'s Information and Privacy Commissioner office on our plan and the process for accessing COVID-19 vaccination information.
- Our website will be secure, and the details will be widely publicized ahead of September
   13.

5

• No copy or record will be kept by the business or event, and it is at the discretion of the individual to show the information.

# What steps has B.C. taken in exploring privacy considerations around a pan-Canadian vaccine passport/proof-of-vaccination certificate?

- We have engaged the B.C.'s Privacy Commissioner office on the proof-of-vaccination plan.
- This plan allows us to implement a vaccine requirement in certain recreational and social settings as of September 13.
- Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13.
- This vaccine card will be an interim solution as we work to transition to a federally compliant proof of vaccine this fall.
- Government has also been engaging the Information and Privacy Commission on this work.
- The briefings emphasize work being done collaboratively by all provinces and the federal government for a single, pan-Canadian proof-of-vaccination certificate for international travel, with the federal government as the lead.
- The briefings have also included the privacy principles considered for any proposed technical solutions, such as sharing the minimum information necessary.
- We will continue to work with B.C.'s privacy commissioner office and seek advice as we move forward with this initiative and a pan-Canadian solution is developed.

#### When will this start?

- On September 13, people will be required to provide proof of vaccination in order to visit indoor social settings like restaurants, bars, high-intensity fitness, and theatres.
   The first stage will require partial vaccination (at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine) to enter these settings.
- By October 24, people must be fully vaccinated (at least 7 days after their second dose of COVID-19 vaccine) to enter these settings.
- Every person who is registered and receives dose 1 in the next three weeks will have had access to dose 2 and be fully vaccinated by the time the measures are fully in force on October 24.
- Full vaccination may be required earlier in areas of high-transmission as designated by the local medical health officer.

#### Will people be using their existing proof of vaccine cards?

No, our new process will be more secure. Printed copies are more easily forged.

- Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13.
- There will also be a secure option for those who can't access the web link.

#### My immunization record is wrong or I was vaccinated outside of BC. What should I do?

- You should update your immunization record if you got dose one or two in another province or country or if you believe your immunization status is wrong.
- You can update your immunization record here: https://www.immunizationrecord.gov.bc.ca/
- It takes 2-3 weeks to update your immunization record.
- If you have proof of vaccination from another province, you can use it to demonstrate your immunization status.

#### I haven't been vaccinated yet. What should I do?

- If you haven't been vaccinated yet, there are still many quick and easy ways to do so.
- Communities throughout B.C. have drop-in clinics and are open 7 days a week.
- You don't need to register online or by phone before you arrive.
- You can find a walk-in clinic near you here: https://www2.qa.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/vaxforbc
- You can also make an appointment to be vaccinated if that works better for you
- To register and get make an appointment to get vaccinated, visit <a href="https://www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/s/">https://www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/s/</a> or call 1-833-838-2323

# Will a second piece of government issued ID be required to insure a person is who they say they are?

- Yes, people will need to present their proof of vaccination and a piece of government issued identification to enter these settings while the PHO Order is in place.
- For people aged 12-17, proof of vaccination will suffice.

### What proof of immunization will be required for non-British Columbians?

- Proof of vaccination from other jurisdictions will be required for travelers visiting the province who are entering the settings outlined today.
- We will be communicating this requirement to other provinces.

- Local businesses will be able to download an easy-to-use reference visual checklist of documents used in other jurisdictions from the BCCDC website. We are working on mechanisms to verify proof of vaccinations from other jurisdictions, and more information will be provided soon.
- This is similar to what many businesses currently use for proof of age.

#### For out of Canada visitors?

- For foreign travellers, they will need to use proof of vaccination and ID from their home jurisdictions.
- Most travellers now need to be fully vaccinated to enter the country.

#### How will you be able to ensure that outside of BC proof of vaccination is not fake?

- The proof of vaccination would need to match the format for the relevant jurisdiction, as set out in the document on the BCCDC website.
- Individuals from outside the province will show that proof of vaccination, alongside valid government identification.

# What steps will be taken to ensure that those under 12 are not spreading COVID in these settings?

- The best strategy is for those who are eligible to get vaccinated; having all people over age 12 vaccinated protects children who are not yet eligible and ensures they don't become infected themselves or transmit the virus.
- While not all British Columbians can be vaccinated, these measures are to assist us in reducing overall transmission in these settings throughout the fall and winter.
- We will continue to monitor transmission by age groups and publicly post these data on the BCCDC website.
- They are based on our strong recommendation that every eligible individual in BC get themselves vaccinated this is the best way to protect yourself, your family and friends, and your community.

### What support will be put in place to support businesses navigating these new rules?

- Throughout the entire pandemic, we have been working closely with stakeholders across a broad spectrum.
- We know that province-wide lockdowns are hard not only on businesses, but on people and communities, too.

- That's why these new measures will make sure businesses can stay open and continue to serve their clientele with much lower risk of potential transmission.
- We expect all businesses to comply with this order and will be engaging and working with them over the next several weeks.
- The Provincial Health Officer Order provides a solid basis for businesses to use this approach and removes any risk of them individually having to defend its use.
- All businesses will be provided with a download showing acceptable proof of vaccine from other Canadian jurisdictions.

### Does this apply to patios or just in-door dining?

This applies to indoor dining, including patios, but not drive-thrus and takeouts

#### Has any other province implemented a proof of vaccine process?

- Manitoba has the "Manitoba Digital Immunization Card" along with physical Manitoba Immunization Cards. These cards will include your first and last names and a QR code. When scanned with the Manitoba Immunization Card app. the QR code will show that you are fully vaccinated.
- Quebec has a PDF digital proof of vaccination. It shows an individual's personal
  information, the vaccines they have received, the result of their first positive COVID-19
  screening test if they received a vaccine dose at least 21 days after the screening test, and a QR
  code containing the above information.

#### How will you enforce businesses' compliance with the order?

- We expect everyone to comply with these orders to protect public health.
- We've worked with businesses throughout the pandemic and we expect they will comply.
- If there are outliers that don't comply, we will address it.

#### What vaccines will be accepted?

- Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty, tozinameran, BNT162b2)
- Moderna (mRNA-1273)
- AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD (ChAdOx1-S, Vaxzevria, AZD1222)
- Janssen/Johnson & Johnson (Ad26.COV2.S)

#### What supports will businesses be provided?

- Throughout the entire pandemic, we have been working closely with stakeholders across a broad spectrum.
- We know that province-wide lockdowns are hard not only on businesses, but on people and communities, too.
- That's why these new measures will make sure businesses can stay open and continue to serve their clientele with much lower risk of potential transmission.
- We will be engaging with the business community over the next several weeks and providing communication ahead of the September 13 effective date.
- All businesses will be provided with a download showing acceptable proof of vaccine from other Canadian jurisdictions.
- We ask British Columbians to be kind.

#### Are you concerned about people forging the proof of vaccination?

- British Columbians have gotten through this pandemic by supporting one another, and we trust people will continue to do their part by following these new rules.
- Businesses will be supported to ensure compliance.
- It would take a certain kind of person to forge a public health document and put others at risk, just to go to a restaurant.
- And don't forget, forging a government document may result in criminal charges or other legal proceedings.

# Why not require proof of vaccination for [x setting] (schools, congregate living incl. shelters or group homes etc.)?

- It remains vital that people continue to have access to essential services, regardless of their vaccination status.
- Getting more people vaccinated will make us all safer in every setting.
- The measures are aimed at reducing transmission by unvaccinated people at recreational and social events and activities.
- People have a choice choose to get vaccinated to protect yourself, your loved ones
  and your community. Or don't get vaccinated and stay away from these social and
  recreational settings.
- There will be tailored plans for schools and post-secondaries, and we will have more to say on this shortly.
- Other businesses or institutions may choose to adopt their own vaccination policies beyond the designated settings but would be responsible for doing their own due diligence.

# Are you still considering extending the proof of vaccine requirement to other settings (incl. health care)?

• We continue to look at all options to protect people in B.C., based on the evidence-based advice from public health.

#### Will the workers in these establishments need to be vaccinated?

- We aren't making vaccination mandatory for employment at this time, other than in specific areas of the health system starting with Long Term Care and Assisted Living Facilities.
- However, we continue to monitor the data and look at all options to keep people safe in B.C., based on the evidence-based advice from public health.
- We expect the measures announced today will encourage the vast majority of people working in these settings to be vaccinated, in order to continue to attend the specified social and recreational events and settings.
- Businesses or institutions may choose to adopt their own vaccination policies beyond the designated settings but would be responsible for doing their own due diligence.

#### Will there be vaccination mandates for workers in other high-risk settings?

- We aren't making vaccination mandatory for employment at this time, other than in specific areas of the health system starting with Long Term Care and Assisted Living Facilities.
- However, we continue to monitor the data and look at all options to keep people safe in B.C., based on the evidence-based advice from public health.

#### Why didn't you do this earlier?

- Vaccines have changed the way we live with COVID-19 and have helped us greatly in getting back to the things we love to do.
- But COVID-19 is still with us, and more transmissible variants like the Delta variant mean it can spread rapidly, even among vaccinated people.
- Most people in B.C. have stepped up, getting two doses of vaccine to protect themselves and their communities.
- But it is clear that further action is needed to help put this pandemic behind us we need more protection, in the form of even higher vaccination rates.

#### What about drive-throughs?

 Proof of vaccination is not required for drive-thru restaurants, as long as the food is not taken inside the establishment to eat.

### Why do people not have to be fully vaccinated until October<sup>s.13</sup>

- We want everyone to get vaccinated now and be able to continue supporting these places.
- Younger people have only been eligible to be vaccinated for a few months.
- And summer is a busy time for many. We know things like work and family schedules may make it difficult for some people to find the time to get the vaccine.
- A phased implementation gives people the time they need to get vaccinated, with both doses of vaccine.

#### Will I need a vaccine passport/proof-of-vaccination certificate to travel internationally?

- B.C. is working with the federal government and other provinces and territories on what a proof-of-vaccination certificate might look like for Canadians for international travel, with the federal government as the lead.
- It is anticipated to be ready this fall.
- s.13; s.16

# Will I need a proof-of-vaccination certificate to access private sector supports, programs or services?

• The order will only apply to the list of settings identified in the PHO Order.

# If a person is asked to provide proof of vaccination to, for example, access services, business premises or to attend an event in B.C., what should they do?

- If you aren't vaccinated, register for your vaccine now! Or walk-into a vaccine clinic.
- Prior to attending an event or business that requires proof of vaccination, individuals will need to access their proof of vaccination record.
- People will be able to securely and confidentially access their proof of vaccination online.

- At admission to one of the designated businesses or activities, individuals will show their proof of vaccination (phone or paper copy) and show 1 other piece of ID such as Driver's licence or BC Services Card to confirm identify.
- No copy or record will be kept by the business or event, and it is at the discretion of the individual to show the information.

# Will you introduce legislation/regulation to guide businesses in the private sector that might want to require proof of vaccination?

- No.
- Employers are accountable for ensuring their workers' safety and should have in place COVID-19 safety plans – including a requirement to stay home when sick, and regular hand washing.
- Employers may decide to implement additional safety measures, including the decision to require vaccination for their employees, or specific requirements for staff working in their businesses who are not vaccinated, such as more frequent rapid testing and/or mask wearing.
- Given the higher transmissibility of the delta variant, all businesses should review the adequacy of their plans.

# Will the proof of vaccination requirement apply to employees at venues (concert halls, restaurants etc.) covered by the vaccination mandate?

- We aren't making vaccination mandatory for employment, other than in specific areas of the health system starting with Long Term Care and Assisted Living Facilities.
- Employers are accountable for ensuring their workers' safety and should have in place COVID-19 safety plans – including a requirement to stay home when sick, mask wearing where appropriate and regular hand washing.
- Given the higher transmissibility of the delta variant, all businesses should review the adequacy of their plans.
- We continue to monitor the data and look at all options to keep people safe in B.C., based on the evidence-based advice from public health.
- The initiatives announced today are to assist in reducing overall transmission over the fall and winter.
- We strongly recommend that every eligible individual in BC get themselves vaccinated this is the best way to protect yourself, your family and friends, and your community.

Will businesses/organizations be able to set their own requirement for proof of vaccine in venues beyond those covered by the PHO order?

- We are introducing a provincial proof of vaccine requirement for designated settings removes the need for these businesses to set their own vaccine requirement.
- The PHO Order provides a solid basis for businesses to use this approach and prevents them from having to defend any action they might have taken individually in this regard.
- The use of additional measures in other settings will be an individual business decision.
- We recommend that any further actions are based on the evidence-based guidance provided by BCCDC.
- Again, the initiatives announced today are to assist in reducing overall transmission over the fall and winter considering the experience of the Delta variance on transmission.

# Will post secondary institutions be permitted to adopt their own proof of vaccine requirement that applies beyond student residences and varsity sports?

- We believe strongly in the importance of returning to campus-based teaching for postsecondary institutions this fall.
- We urge every eligible person in B.C. to get vaccinated this is the best way to protect yourself, your family and friends, and your community.
- There will be a requirement to be vaccinated to live in a post-secondary residence; as well as the requirement announced today for proof of vaccination to access a range of social and recreational settings and services. This requirement will apply to those same settings on post-secondary campuses
- Again, the initiatives announced today are to assist in reducing overall transmission over the fall and winter considering the experience of the Delta variance on transmission.
- Post-secondary institutions, like other businesses or organizations, may choose to adopt their own vaccination policies beyond the PHO order, but would be required to do their own due diligence.

#### Are libraries included?

No.

# What about outdoor events like the PNE and fairs that have indoor components like barns and indoor attractions that visitors attend?

- Proof of vaccination would be required to access designated spaces.
- For example, an indoor restaurant or beer garden.

# PJH quote - for your review and approval - FW: DRAFT: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

From: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>

To: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: GCPE Communications - COVID HLTH <CommHcovid@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX

<Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>, Harris, Megan GCPE:EX

<Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>, McKill, Colin GCPE:EX

<Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca>, Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX
<Cale.Cowan@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 12:13:49 PM PDT

Attachments: DRAFT.pdf

Hi Aileen and Sage,

PJH quote and release for your approval, going as a hairtrigger around 1:15 p.m.

Note: I trimmed the headline a bit to streamline noting that stopping the spread <u>is</u> protecting people. See what you think:

#### B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

If it needs to revert to the original, I can live with that.

Grant

From: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant. Kerr@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 12:10 PM

To: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: DRAFT: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary of the News Release

NR Number: Not Approved NR Type: News Release

State: Planned

Planned Release Date: August 23, 2021 at 1:00 pm

Media Distribution Lists: 000.0 - Victoria, 000.1 - Burnaby, 033.0 - Kelowna, 076.0 - Surrey, CCM\_ALL CULTURAL COMMUNITY, CCCH\_CHINESE, CCID\_INDIGENOUS, CCPE\_PERSIAN, CCSA\_SOUTH ASIAN, LEGIS\_PRESS GALLERY, LMain,

MEDIA, MMVAN\_MMVAN, OKANA\_OKANAGAN, PROVI\_PROVINCE WIDE

No Lead Organization

Headline: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

This email was auto-generated.

Not Approved Aug. 23, 2021

Office of the Premier Ministry of Health

**NEWS RELEASE** 

B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

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This important step will continue to increase the vaccination rate across the province and provide confidence to fully vaccinated people that those around them are also fully vaccinated.

"Vaccines are our ticket to putting this pandemic behind us," said Premier John Horgan. "So I call on all eligible unvaccinated British Columbians to roll up their sleeves to stop the spread, and help protect themselves, their loved ones and the people in their community. British Columbia has one of the strongest vaccination rates in Canada with 75% of eligible people now fully vaccinated, but there is still more work to do."

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"I am grateful to every single person who has taken the time to receive their COVID-19 vaccine," said Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer. "While our vaccination rate continues to rise, we are still seeing waves of transmission primarily amongst those who are not fully vaccinated. These new measures will help reduce transmission and keep our communities safe and ensure we can continue to keep businesses open and safely enjoy much-needed social events."

A secure weblink will be provided and publicized before Sept. 13, where people will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination. Individuals will be able to save a copy of their proof of vaccination to their phone to show it when entering or using designated businesses and events. Individuals who cannot access their proof of vaccination online will be provided with a secure alternative option.

"Getting vaccinated keeps everyone in B.C. safe and stops the spread of COVID-19," said Adrian Dix, Minister of Health. "And getting vaccinated is the best choice to protect yourself, the people you love and to ensure you can continue to participate in these public and private events and settings. Our B.C. vaccine card is an essential interim action until we transition to a federally compliant proof of vaccine."

By getting vaccinated prior to Sept. 13, every British Columbian can continue to access these events and settings.

Details on specific COVID-19 safety requirements for K-12 and post-secondary schools will be available this week.

Two backgrounders follow.

Contacts:

Lindsay Byers
Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca

Ministry of Health Communications 250 952-1887 (media line)

BACKGROUNDER 1
How it works

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- \* Island Health (https://covid19.islandclinics.ca/?q=locations)
- \* Interior Health (https://news.interiorhealth.ca/news/covid-19-immunization-clinics/)
- \* Northern Health (https://www.northernhealth.ca/health-topics/covid-19-immunization-clinics)

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Ministry of Health Communications 250 952-1887 (media line) Connect with the Province of B.C. at: http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect



# **NEWS RELEASE**

Not Approved Aug. 23, 2021 Office of the Premier Ministry of Health

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Ministry of Health Communications 250 952-1887 (media line)

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: <u>news.gov.bc.ca/connect</u>



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Not Approved Aug. 23, 2021 Office of the Premier Ministry of Health

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Ministry of Health Communications 250 952-1887 (media line)

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# RE: PJH quote - for your review and approval - FW: DRAFT: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

From Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>

To: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: GCPE Communications - COVID HLTH < CommHcovid@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, Aaron,

Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX

<Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>, Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>,

McKill, Colin GCPE:EX <Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca>, Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX <Cale.Cowan@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 12:30:16 PM PDT

Good by me! Thanks!

From: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant. Kerr@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 12:14 PM

To: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** GCPE Communications - COVID HLTH <CommHcovid@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>; McKill, Colin GCPE:EX <Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca>; Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX <Cale.Cowan@gov.bc.ca>

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State: Planned

Planned Release Date: August 23, 2021 at 1:00 pm

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COMMUNITY, CCCH\_CHINESE, CCID\_INDIGENOUS, CCPE\_PERSIAN, CCSA\_SOUTH ASIAN, LEGIS\_PRESS GALLERY, LMain,

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No Lead Organization

Headline: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

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- \* Vancouver Coastal Health (<a href="http://www.vch.ca/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine">http://www.vch.ca/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine</a>)
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- \* Interior Health (https://news.interiorhealth.ca/news/covid-19-immunization-clinics/)
- \* Northern Health (https://www.northernhealth.ca/health-topics/covid-19-immunization-clinics)

# Contacts:

**Lindsay Byers** 

Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
<u>Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca</u>

Ministry of Health

250 952-1887 (media line)

Communications

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect

# The final - FW: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

From: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>

To: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>, Byers, Lindsay

PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: GCPE Communications - COVID HLTH <CommHcovid@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>,

Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX

<Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>, Harris, Megan GCPE:EX
<Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>, McKill, Colin GCPE:EX
<Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca>, Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX

<Cale.Cowan@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 12:32:35 PM PDT

Attachments: 2021HLTH0053-001659.pdf

Here's your final, ready for hairtrigger around 1:15 p.m.

Who will give the signal to release? Aileen? Lindsay? Sage?

Grant

From: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant. Kerr@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 12:31 PM

To: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary of the News Release

Permalink: https://news.gov.bc.ca/25211

News ID: NEWS-25211

NR Number: 2021HLTH0053-001659

NR Type: News Release

State: Planned

Planned Release Date: August 23, 2021 at 6:11 pm

Media Distribution Lists: 000.0 - Victoria, 000.1 - Burnaby, 033.0 - Kelowna, 076.0 - Surrey, CCM\_ALL CULTURAL COMMUNITY, CCCH\_CHINESE, CCID\_INDIGENOUS, CCPE\_PERSIAN, CCSA\_SOUTH ASIAN, LEGIS\_PRESS GALLERY, LMain,

MEDIA, MMVAN\_MMVAN, OKANA\_OKANAGAN, PROVI\_PROVINCE WIDE

Lead Organization: Ministry of Health

Headline: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

This email was auto-generated.

For Immediate Release 2021HLTH0053-001659

Aug. 23, 2021

Office of the Premier Ministry of Health

**NEWS RELEASE** 

B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

VICTORIA - Starting Sept. 13, 2021, proof of vaccination will be required in B.C. for people attending certain social and recreational settings and events.

This important step will continue to increase the vaccination rate across the province and provide confidence to fully vaccinated people that those around them are also fully vaccinated.

"Vaccines are our ticket to putting this pandemic behind us," said Premier John Horgan. "So I call on all eligible unvaccinated British Columbians to roll up their sleeves to stop the spread, and help protect themselves, their loved ones and the people in their community. British Columbia has one of the strongest vaccination rates in Canada with 75% of eligible people now fully vaccinated, but there is still more work to do."

A new order from the provincial health officer will require individuals to provide proof of vaccination to access a broad range of social, recreational, and discretionary events and businesses throughout the province. As of Sept. 13, one dose of vaccine will be required for entry to these settings. By Oct. 24, entry to these settings will require people to be fully vaccinated at least seven days after receiving both doses. To enter certain spaces, including indoor ticketed sporting events, indoor and patio dining in restaurants, fitness centres, casinos and indoor organized events, like conferences and weddings, people aged 12 and older will be required to show their proof of vaccination.

"I am grateful to every single person who has taken the time to receive their COVID-19 vaccine," said Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer. "While our vaccination rate continues to rise, we are still seeing waves of transmission primarily amongst those who are not fully vaccinated. These new measures will help reduce transmission and keep our communities safe and ensure we can continue to keep businesses open and safely enjoy much-needed social events."

A secure weblink will be provided and publicized before Sept. 13, where people will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination. Individuals will be able to save a copy of their proof of vaccination to their phone to show it when entering or using designated businesses and events. Individuals who cannot access their proof of vaccination online will be provided with a secure alternative option.

"Getting vaccinated keeps everyone in B.C. safe and stops the spread of COVID-19," said Adrian Dix, Minister of Health. "And getting vaccinated is the best choice to protect yourself, the people you love and to ensure you can continue to participate in these public and private events and settings. Our B.C. vaccine card is an essential interim action until we transition to a federally compliant proof of vaccine."

By getting vaccinated prior to Sept. 13, every British Columbian can continue to access these events and settings.

Details on specific COVID-19 safety requirements for K-12 and post-secondary schools will be available this week.

Two backgrounders follow.

Contacts:

Lindsay Byers
Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca

Ministry of Health Communications 250 952-1887 (media line)

# BACKGROUNDER 1 How it works

- \* As of Sept. 13, people in British Columbia will be required to be partially vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine to access certain businesses and events.
- \* As of Oct. 24, people in British Columbia will be required to be fully immunized, at least seven days after receiving two doses of COVID-19 vaccine, to access the same list of businesses and events.
- \* In the interim, in areas where community transmission is increased significantly or where there are outbreaks, the requirements to be fully vaccinated to access these events and activities may be required at the direction of the local medical health officer.
- \* Here is the full list of settings where proof of vaccination will be required:
- \* indoor ticketed sporting events

- \* indoor concerts
- \* indoor theatre/dance/symphony events
- \* restaurants (indoor and patio dining)
- \* night clubs
- \* casinos
- \* movie theatres
- \* fitness centres/gyms (excluding youth recreational sport)
- \* businesses offering indoor high-intensity group exercise activities
- \* organized indoor events (eg. weddings, parties, conferences, meetings, workshops)
- \* discretionary organized indoor group recreational classes and activities
- \* Individual businesses or event organizers may also implement these requirements earlier as part of their ongoing safety plans. Businesses or institutions choosing to adopt their own vaccination policies beyond those set out in this order will be responsible for doing their own due diligence.
- \* Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A weblink will be provided and publicized widely before Sept. 13. To access proof of vaccination an individual will need:
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- \* date of birth
- \* personal health number (PHN)
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- \* The measures will be time limited through to Jan. 31, 2022, subject to possible extension.
- \* The measures set out above do not apply to K-12 schools (public and independent) and before-and-after school programs for students. Student-only events and activities within K-to-12 public and independent schools and before and after school programs are excluded from providing a proof of vaccine as they will be covered by specific guidelines for school and child care settings. Guidance for these settings related to students will be provided in the coming days. The measures do apply to large indoor events (theatre, concerts) attended by parents, family and/or the public.
- \* The measures set out above will, as relevant, apply to post-secondary campuses. Student housing will be a part of the public health order identifying where proof of vaccination is required and will be in effect for Sept. 7. Further guidance for these settings related to students will be developed in the coming days in consultation with public health, including which types of student housing facilities will be included.

Contacts:

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Ministry of Health Communications 250 952-1887 (media line)

# **BACKGROUNDER 2**

How to get vaccinated and stay safe from COVID-19

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- \* Island Health (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/vaxforbc#vancouver-island)
- \* Interior Health (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/vaxforbc#interior)
- \* Northern Health (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/vaxforbc#northern)

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# Contacts:

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Connect with the Province of B.C. at: http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect



# **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release 2021HLTH0053-001659 Aug. 23, 2021

Office of the Premier Ministry of Health

# B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

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# **BACKGROUNDER 1**

For Immediate Release 2021HLTH0053-001659 Aug. 23, 2021

Office of the Premier Ministry of Health

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# Contacts:

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Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Premier
Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca

Ministry of Health Communications 250 952-1887 (media line)

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: <u>news.gov.bc.ca/connect</u>



# **BACKGROUNDER 2**

For Immediate Release 2021HLTH0053-001659 Aug. 23, 2021

Office of the Premier Ministry of Health

# How to get vaccinated and stay safe from COVID-19

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# **Contacts:**

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Press Secretary
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Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca

Ministry of Health Communications 250 952-1887 (media line)

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: <a href="news.gov.bc.ca/connect">news.gov.bc.ca/connect</a>

# RE: The final - FW: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-

From Ferrier, Jeffrey GCPE:EX <Jeffrey.Ferrier@gov.bc.ca>

To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX

<Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 12:48:54 PM PDT

s.22

From: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 12:35 PM

To: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant. Kerr@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>;

GCPE Communications - COVID HLTH <CommHcovid@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>; McKill, Colin GCPE:EX <Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca>; Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX

<Cale.Cowan@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: The final - FW: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

I will give the signal s.22

Sage (she/her) 778-678-0832 Sent from my mobile device

On Aug 23, 2021, at 12:32 PM, Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca > wrote:

Here's your final, ready for hairtrigger around 1:15 p.m.

Who will give the signal to release? Aileen? Lindsay? Sage?

Grant

From: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca >

Sent: August 23, 2021 12:31 PM

To: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant. Kerr@gov.bc.ca >

Subject: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary of the News Release

Permalink: https://news.gov.bc.ca/25211

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# On it - RE: The final - FW: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

From Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>

To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX

<Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>, Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX

<Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>, GCPE Communications - COVID HLTH
<CommHcovid@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, Harris, Megan GCPE:EX

<Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>, McKill, Colin GCPE:EX <Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca>,

Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX <Cale.Cowan@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 1:06:14 PM PDT

From: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 1:06 PM

To: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Lindsay PREM:EX <Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca>;

 ${\tt GCPE\ Communications\ -\ COVID\ HLTH\ -CommHcovid@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>;\ Harris,\ Megan\ GCPE: EXCOMMUNICATION - COVID\ HLTH\ -COMMHcov.bc.ca>;\ Harris,\ H$ 

<Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>; McKill, Colin GCPE:EX <Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca>; Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX

<Cale.Cowan@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: The final - FW: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

Good to send now.

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Sent from my mobile device

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From: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca >

Sent: August 23, 2021 12:31 PM

To: Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX < Grant. Kerr@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

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Permalink: https://news.gov.bc.ca/25211

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Page 260 of 327 to/à Page 263 of 327
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Copyright

# BC Gov News - B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19

From: noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca

To: sage.aaron@gov.bc.ca, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 1:14:25 PM PDT

For Immediate Release 2021HLTH0053-001659

Aug. 23, 2021

Office of the Premier Ministry of Health

**NEWS RELEASE** 

B.C. launches proof of vaccination to stop spread of COVID-19 Copyright

Page 265 of 327 to/à Page 267 of 327
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Copyright

# Overview - Digital content schedule - Aug 24

From: Thaw, Sara GCPE:EX <Sara.Thaw@gov.bc.ca>

To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>, Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX

<Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>, Harris, Megan GCPE:EX<Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>, Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX

<Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Greer, Shannon GCPE:EX <Shannon.Greer@gov.bc.ca>, Ward, Allieren

GCPE:EX <Allieren.Ward@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 23, 2021 9:39:01 PM PDT

Attachments: Social Media posts for approval\_Aug\_23\_8PM.docx

Hey Sage, Tim, and Megan,

For your information, attached is an overview (still DRAFT) of the digital posts for tomorrow. I am currently running them through approvals with the GCPE shops (EDU, HLTH, AEST). Tim H and an Issues Manager has been copied on all the approvals. Below is the content schedule (timing is subject to change). Let me know if you have any questions or if we've missed anything.

Thank you all for keeping Digital in the loop on all the things!

# Digital content schedule - Tuesday Aug 24

- 9:00AM POST DAILY WILDFIRE UPDATE
- 9:30AM LIVESTREAM Safe Return to School
- 10:30AM POST: Return to K-12 school
- 11:30AM POST: PHO order indoor mask mandate
- 1:00PM POST Return to Post-secondary
- 2:00PM LIVESTREAM Wildfire Update
- 4:00PM POST DAILY C19 UPDATE

Warmly,

# Sara Thaw

Director, Digital Communications
Strategic Communications
Government Communications & Public Engagement
Sara.thaw@gov.bc.ca | +1 250 883 0374

Pronouns: she/her

Post	Сору:	Image:	Approvals:	Status:
#/name				
Indoor mask mandate in BC	Due to rising COVID-19 cases, masks are now mandatory in all indoor public spaces for people 12 years and older. BC's province-wide indoor mask mandate applies to everyone, even if you are fully vaccinated. Learn more: gov.bc.ca/COVID19restrictions	Masks mandatory in indoor public spaces  COVID-19 IN BC	GCPE HLTH HLTH MO PHO ISSUES	

# Back to school Omnibus

# Graphic copy:

Back to K-12 school - what you need to know

# Post copy:

Students, teachers and staff will return to the classroom in September with safety protocols in place. Key things to know:

- ✓ Masks will be required in all indoor areas for all K-12 staff, visitors, and students in Grades 4+.
- ✓ Cleaning and disinfecting will continue daily.
- ✓ Increased ventilation and improvements in schools.
- ✓ Daily health checks are required. Feeling sick? Stay home.
- $\checkmark$  Strict physical distancing is no longer required.
- ✓ Learning groups are no longer required and students will be able to resume sports, music, and other extracurricular activities.
- ✓ Everyone aged 12+ is encouraged to get vaccinated with two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to help keep others safe.



GCPE EDU EDU MO ISSUES

	Learn more about safely returning to K-12 school this September: gov.bc.ca/BacktoSchool			
Masks in schools	Graphic copy: Masks in schools  Post copy: To prevent the spread of COVID- 19, masks will be required by all K- 12 staff, visitors, and students in Grades 4+. Masks must be worn in all indoor areas of the school, including at desks and on school buses. Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 will be strongly encouraged to wear masks. Learn more: gov.bc.ca/BacktoSchool	Masks in schools	GCPE EDU EDU MO ISSUES	

Return to	Graphic copy:	Doturning to	GCPE AEST
post-	Returning to Post-Secondary: what	Returning to	AEST MO
secondary	you need to know	Post-Secondary:	ISSUES
	<b>D</b>	What you need to know	
	Post copy:	What you need to know	
	When post-secondary students and		
	staff come back together for in-		
	person learning this fall, here's		
	what they can expect:		
	Maaka ana mandatami in all		
	Masks are mandatory in all indoor public areas on		
	college and university	00/10 10 1/1 20	
	campuses, including	COVID-19 IN BC	
	lobbies, hallways,		
	stairwells, elevators,		
	classrooms, and labs.		
	People will be required to		
	show proof of vaccination		
	(BC's vaccine card) to		
	access non-essential		
	services on campus like		
	gyms, nightclubs,		
	restaurants and some indoor		
	events.		
	Students living in on-		
	campus housing will require		
	proof of vaccination.		
	International students, like		
	all travelers, must show		
	their proof of vaccination		

through the ArriveCAN app.		
If you haven't already gotten both doses, now is the time to get vaccinated. Learn more about BC's safe return to post-secondary: gov.bc.ca/URL		

# **TO SHARE: C19 Digital Content**

From: Thaw, Sara GCPE:EX <Sara.Thaw@gov.bc.ca>

To: LP Executive Assistants <LPEAS@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Ministerial

Advisors <LPMAs@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, LP Senior Ministerial Advisors

<SRMINADV@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, GCPE Comm Directors <PABDirectors@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, GCPE Comm Managers

<GCPECM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>

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<Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 24, 2021 12:29:22 PM PDT

Attachments: 08 20 2021 COVID Proof of vaccine-20 (1).png, Post sec-19.png,

BTS\_omnibus-V2-02.png, Masks mandatory.png, Masks mandatory 16-9.jpeg,

Post\_sec-20.png, BTS\_omnibus-V2-01.png, 08\_20\_2021\_COVID\_Proof\_of\_vaccine-21 (1).png, 08\_20\_2021\_COVID\_Proof\_of\_vaccine-18 (1).png, 08\_20\_2021\_COVID\_Proof\_of\_vaccine-17 (1).png

Hi everyone,

Please share this content far and wide on social media to communicate the following new messages about (a) proof of vaccination (b) K-12: back to school (c) Post-secondary: back to school (c) Provincewide indoor mask mandate. Please note that that all our content is for everyone share on their social media accounts – the wider the message goes, the better it is.

Thank you for helping get our messages out!

# Proof of Vaccination - Wavs to show:

- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BCProvincialGovernment/posts/4858164794201774
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/BCGovNews/status/1429979030149816322
- Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CS8FBntNimE/">https://www.instagram.com/p/CS8FBntNimE/</a>

# Proof of Vaccination - Where to show:

- Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/BCProvincialGovernment/posts/4858164424201811">https://www.facebook.com/BCProvincialGovernment/posts/4858164424201811</a>
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/BCGovNews/status/1429986924333314059
- Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CS8IHqUHAaM/">https://www.instagram.com/p/CS8IHqUHAaM/</a>

# Back to School - K12:

- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BCProvincialGovernment/posts/4860331090651811
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/BCGovNews/status/1430219193564098561
- Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/CS9yPJhLiu">https://www.instagram.com/p/CS9yPJhLiu</a>

# Back to School – Post-Secondary:

- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BCProvincialGovernment/posts/4860457390639181
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/BCGovNews/status/1430231677050130437
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/p/CS938OCLHj4/

# Indoor mask mandate:

- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BCProvincialGovernment/posts/4860503437301243
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/BCGovNews/status/1430243512788914182
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/p/CS99YQDLha4/

Please get in touch if you have any questions!

Warmly,

# Sara Thaw

Director, Digital Communications
Strategic Communications
Government Communications & Public Engagement
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Pronouns: she/her



# Where you will need proof of vaccination



Indoor ticketed events



Movie theatres



Indoor organized gatherings



Indoor & patio dining



Gyms, pools & recreation facilities



Indoor recreational



Night clubs & casinos



HI indoor group exercise

COVID-19 IN BC

# Returning to Post-Secondary: What you need to know

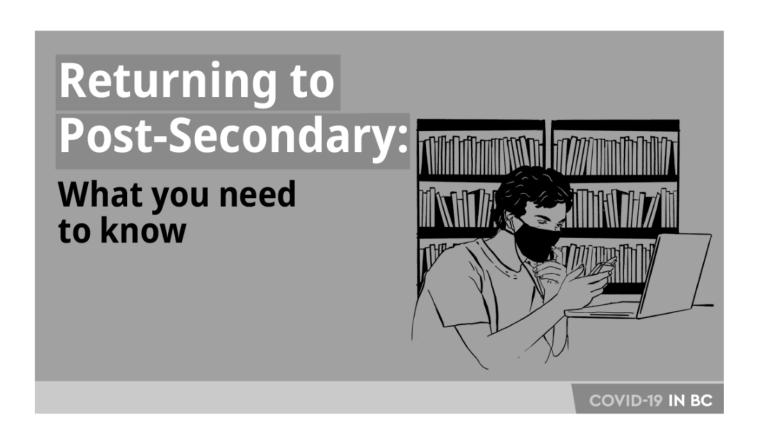


COVID-19 IN BC













## Where you will need proof of vaccination



Indoor ticketed events



Indoor & patio dining



Night clubs & casinos



Movie theatres



Gyms, pools & recreation facilities



HI indoor group exercise



Indoor organized gatherings



Indoor recreational classes

COVID-19 IN BC

## Proof of vaccination starts Sept.13



COVID-19 IN BC

# Proof of vaccination starts Sept.13



COVID-19 IN BC

## Fw: Updated materials for tomorrow's announcement & Schedule

From: s.17

To: Nash, Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Nash@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: September 20, 2021 5:47:16 PM PDT

Attachments: Monday August 23.pdf, Proof of Vaccine KMQA 4pm Aug 22.docx,

20210823 SN\_PJH\_vax certification\_clean\_v3.docx, 2021.08.23 Issues

Scan.docx, Vaccine proof news release 4pm aug 22.docx

From: Nash, Amber PREM:EX

Sent: Sunday, August 22, 2021 5:18 PM

To:s.17

Cc: Dunnett, Jennifer PREM:EX

Subject: Updated materials for tomorrow's announcement & Schedule

Materials for tomorrow's announcement & Schedule.

Confirming pick up at 10am.

Α

Monday, August 23, 2021			August 2021							September 2021					
<u>s.17</u>	S	M	Ϊ	W	Ϊ	Ë	S		S	M	Ϊ	W	Ϊ	Ë	
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https://summer.gov.bc.ca/owa/#

## Proof of Vaccine Q&A: August 23, 2021

## **Key Messages:**

## **Primary messaging**

Getting vaccinated is a choice.

You can choose to be vaccinated, to protect yourself, protect your loved ones, and protect your community.

You can choose to be vaccinated to protect kids who can't get vaccinated, and the sick and vulnerable.

By choosing to get vaccinated, you choose to be able to support local restaurants. To attend family weddings. To attend a Lions Game or Canucks Game. To go to spin class or hot yoga. To attend indoor festivals and events. To take in a concert.

This is your choice, and you can make it a positive one.

You have the power. You have the time.

Let's do this. Let's get it done.

You are also free to make other choices, and those choices have consequences.

Our hope is that you make the positive choice - get vaccinated.

## Primary - what we are announcing

- Proof of vaccination will soon be required to access certain social and recreational events, services and businesses to help keep protect people from COVID-19.
- We've always said getting vaccinated is a choice.
- And getting vaccinated is the best choice to protect yourself, the people you love, and to ensure you can continue to participate in these public and private events and settings.
- If you want to keep attending these events and settings, you will need to be vaccinated. Book your appointment today.
- This isn't happening overnight we're giving everyone advanced notice that this is coming soon, so people can book vaccine appointments and get ready.
- As of September 13<sup>th</sup>, people will need to at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine to enter these spaces:
  - o Indoor ticketed sporting events

- o Indoor concerts
- o Indoor theatre/dance/symphony events
- o Restaurants (indoor dining)
- o Night Clubs
- o Casinos
- o Movie Theatres
- o Fitness centres/gyms (excluding youth recreational sport)
- o Businesses offering indoor high intensity group exercise
- Organized indoor events (ex. weddings, parties, conferences, meetings, workshops)
- Discretionary organized indoor group recreational classes and activities (excluding k-12 schools, before and after school programs)
- The specifics will be outlined in the PHO Order.
- As of October s.13 people need to be fully vaccinated with two doses, with s.13 lays passing after receiving the final COVID-19 vaccine dose to access these same spaces.
  - Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13. Individuals will be able to save a copy of their proof of vaccination to their phone to show when entering or using designated businesses and events.
- A second, secure option will be provided for people who can't access the website through a provincial call-in centre.
- We will continue to work with businesses over the coming weeks, so they have the support and information they need before this comes into effect.

### Secondary messaging:

- Getting vaccinated keeps everyone in B.C. safe and stops the spread of COVID-19.
- B.C. is underway with the largest immunization effort in the province's history.
- So far, close to 75 per cent of all eligible people have been fully vaccinated.
- This is excellent progress, but there is still more work to do.
- Public health continues to closely monitor case counts, hospitalizations, and deaths. We are still seeing a surge in cases in groups of unvaccinated people.
- Roughly X per cent of recent cases are occurring in people who have not been fully vaccinated.
- We know the best way to put this pandemic behind us is through vaccines.
- They are safe, effective and allow us to return to doing the things we love.
- There are people who can't receive the vaccine for medical reasons or are not eligible (under the age of 12)— we need to keep boosting our vaccination rates to protect these people from transmission of COVID-19.

## **Questions and Answers**

## What are you announcing today?

- We are announcing that effective September 13th, people will be required to provide proof of vaccination in order to participate in certain social, recreational and indoor activities.
- The initial requirement is for at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Starting October
   s.13 people will need to be fully vaccinated s.13 to enter these settings.
- This is an important step to continue increasing our vaccination rate across the province and make our communities safer from COVID-19.

## Where is proof of vaccination required in B.C?

- Vaccination is required in B.C. in the following settings:
  - o Indoor ticketed sporting events
  - o Indoor concerts
  - o Indoor theatre/dance/symphony events
  - Restaurants (indoor dining and outdoor patios)
  - o Night Clubs
  - o Casinos
  - o Movie Theatres
  - o Fitness centres/gyms (excluding youth recreational sport)
  - o Businesses offering high intensity group exercise
  - Organized indoor events (ex. weddings, parties, conferences, meetings, workshops)
  - Discretionary organized indoor group recreational classes and activities (excluding k-12 schools, before and after school programs)

## What will a proof-of-vaccination certificate look like? How would I use it?

- Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13.
- A second, secure option will be provided for people who can't access the website.
- People will need to present their proof of vaccination, and ID in order to enter the specific settings outlined today.

• This proof of vaccination will be an interim solution as we work to transition to a federally compliant proof of vaccine later this fall.

## What will I need to get my proof of vaccination?

- Details will be widely publicized well in advance of September 13.
- People will need to present their:
  - Name
  - Date of birth
  - Personal health number

## Who did you consult with on the decision-making process?

- Throughout the entire pandemic, we have been working closely with stakeholders across a broad spectrum.
- We know that province-wide lockdowns are hard, not only on businesses, but on people and communities, too.
- That's why these new measures will make sure businesses can stay open and continue to serve their clientele with much lower risk of potential transmission.
- We have started and will continue with engagement with First Nations and Indigenous communities over the next several weeks as we move forward with these measures.

## How will you get the message out to businesses affected?

- Ministers across government, including the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation are working hard to keep their stakeholders informed and updated with these changes.
- These new requirements will be effective starting September 13.
- We will continue to work closely with our partners, stakeholders and business community to keep people informed with the latest information.

## How will you get the message out to British Columbians?

- Throughout the entire pandemic, British Columbians have stepped up and come together to keep each other safe.
- These new proof of vaccine requirements will help keep everyone safe and prevent the transmission of COVID-19.
- We will continue to provide British Columbians with the latest information through our government channels.

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## What are you hoping to get out of the mandatory proof of vaccinations?

- While COVID is still with us, vaccines have changed the way we live and deal with the virus.
- While vaccines have always been a choice, there may be some things people can't do unless they are vaccinated.
- Getting vaccinated protects yourself and your community and it's important that more people get vaccinated to make us all safer.
- Proof of vaccines is an important tool the province is using to boost vaccination rates and help put this pandemic behind us.

## How would my privacy be protected?

- We've engaged B.C.'s Information and Privacy Commissioner office on our plan and the process for accessing COVID-19 vaccination information.
- Our website will be secure, and the details will be widely publicized ahead of September
   13.
- No copy or record will be kept by the business or event, and it is at the discretion of the individual to show the information.

## What steps has B.C. taken in exploring privacy considerations around a pan-Canadian vaccine passport/proof-of-vaccination certificate?

- We have engaged the B.C.'s Privacy Commissioner office on the proof-of-vaccination plan.
- This plan allows us to implement a vaccine requirement in certain recreational and social settings as of September 13.
- Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13.
- This vaccine card will be an interim solution as we work to transition to a federally compliant proof of vaccine this fall.
- Government has also been engaging the Information and Privacy Commission on this work.
- The briefings emphasize work being done collaboratively by all provinces and the federal government for a single, pan-Canadian proof-of-vaccination certificate for international travel, with the federal government as the lead.

- The briefings have also included the privacy principles considered for any proposed technical solutions, such as sharing the minimum information necessary.
- We will continue to work with B.C.'s privacy commissioner office and seek advice as we move forward with this initiative and a pan-Canadian solution is developed.

### When will this start?

- On September 13, people will be required to provide proof of vaccination in order to visit indoor social settings like restaurants, bars, high-intensity fitness, and theatres.
   The first stage will require partial vaccination (at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine) to enter these settings.
- By October \$.13 people must be fully vaccinated (at least \$.1 days after their second dose of COVID-19 vaccine) to enter these settings.
- s.13
- Full vaccination may be required earlier in areas of high-transmission as designated by the local medical health officer.

## Will people be using their existing proof of vaccine cards?

- No, our new process will be more secure. Printed copies are more easily forged.
- Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A web link will be provided and publicized widely before September 13.
- There will also be a secure option for those who can't access the web link.

## My immunization record is wrong or I was vaccinated outside of BC. What should I do?

- You should update your immunization record if you got dose one or two in another province or country or if you believe your immunization status is wrong.
- You can update your immunization record here: https://www.immunizationrecord.gov.bc.ca/
- It takes 2-3 weeks to update your immunization record.
- If you have proof of vaccination from another province, you can use it to demonstrate your immunization status.

### I haven't been vaccinated yet. What should I do?

- If you haven't been vaccinated yet, there are still many quick and easy ways to do so.
- Communities throughout B.C. have drop-in clinics and are open 7 days a week.
- You don't need to register online or by phone before you arrive.

- You can find a walk-in clinic near you here: https://www2.qa.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/vaxforbc
- You can also make an appointment to be vaccinated if that works better for you
- To register and get make an appointment to get vaccinated, visit <a href="https://www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/s/">https://www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/s/</a> or call 1-833-838-2323

## Will a second piece of government issued ID be required to insure a person is who they say they are?

- Yes, people will need to present their proof of vaccination and a piece of government issued identification to enter these settings while the PHO Order is in place.
- For people aged 12-17, proof of vaccination will suffice.

## What proof of immunization will be required for non-British Columbians?

- Proof of vaccination from other jurisdictions will be required for travelers visiting the province who are entering the settings outlined today.
- We will be communicating this requirement to other provinces.
- Local businesses will be able to download an easy-to-use reference visual checklist of documents used in other jurisdictions from the BCCDC website. We are working on mechanisms to verify proof of vaccinations from other jurisdictions, and more information will be provided soon.
- This is similar to what many businesses currently use for proof of age.

### For out of Canada visitors?

- For foreign travellers, they will need to use proof of vaccination and ID from their home jurisdictions.
- Most travellers now need to be fully vaccinated to enter the country.

## How will you be able to ensure that outside of BC proof of vaccination is not fake?

- The proof of vaccination would need to match the format for the relevant jurisdiction, as set out in the document on the BCCDC website.
- Individuals from outside the province will show that proof of vaccination, alongside valid government identification.

## What steps will be taken to ensure that those under 12 are not spreading COVID in these settings?

- The best strategy is for those who are eligible to get vaccinated
- While not all British Columbians can be vaccinated, these measures are to assist us in reducing overall transmission in these settings throughout the fall and winter.
- They are based on our strong recommendation that every eligible individual in BC get themselves vaccinated this is the best way to protect yourself, your family and friends, and your community.

## What support will be put in place to support businesses navigating these new rules?

- Throughout the entire pandemic, we have been working closely with stakeholders across a broad spectrum.
- We know that province-wide lockdowns are hard not only on businesses, but on people and communities, too.
- That's why these new measures will make sure businesses can stay open and continue to serve their clientele with much lower risk of potential transmission.
- We expect all businesses to comply with this order and will be engaging and working with them over the next several weeks.
- The Provincial Health Officer Order provides a solid basis for businesses to use this approach and removes any risk of them individually having to defend its use.
- All businesses will be provided with a download showing acceptable proof of vaccine from other Canadian jurisdictions.

### Does this apply to patios or just in-door dining?

This applies to indoor dining, including patios, but not drive-thrus and takeouts

### Has any other province implemented a proof of vaccine process?

 Manitoba has the "Manitoba Digital Immunization Card" along with physical Manitoba Immunization Cards. These cards will include your first and last names and a QR code. When scanned with the Manitoba Immunization Card app. the QR code will show that you are fully vaccinated. Quebec has a PDF digital proof of vaccination. It shows an individual's personal
information, the vaccines they have received, the result of their first positive COVID-19
screening test if they received a vaccine dose at least 21 days after the screening test,
and a QR code containing the above information.

## How will you enforce businesses' compliance with the order?

- We expect everyone to comply with these orders to protect public health.
- We've worked with businesses throughout the pandemic and we expect they will comply.
- If there are outliers that don't comply, we will address it.

## What vaccines will be accepted?

- Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty, tozinameran, BNT162b2)
- Moderna (mRNA-1273)
- AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD (ChAdOx1-S, Vaxzevria, AZD1222)
- Janssen/Johnson & Johnson (Ad26.COV2.S)

### What supports will businesses be provided?

- Throughout the entire pandemic, we have been working closely with stakeholders across a broad spectrum.
- We know that province-wide lockdowns are hard not only on businesses, but on people and communities, too.
- That's why these new measures will make sure businesses can stay open and continue to serve their clientele with much lower risk of potential transmission.
- We will be engaging with the business community over the next several weeks and providing communication ahead of the September 13 effective date.
- All businesses will be provided with a download showing acceptable proof of vaccine from other Canadian jurisdictions.
- We ask British Columbians to be kind.

### Are you concerned about people forging the proof of vaccination?

- British Columbians have gotten through this pandemic by supporting one another, and we trust people will continue to do their part by following these new rules.
- Businesses will be supported to ensure compliance.
- It would take a certain kind of person to forge a public health document and put others at risk, just to go to a restaurant.

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 And don't forget, forging a government document may result in criminal charges or other legal proceedings.

## Why not require proof of vaccination for [x setting] (schools, congregate living incl. shelters or group homes etc.)?

- It remains vital that people continue to have access to essential services, regardless of their vaccination status.
- Getting more people vaccinated will make us all safer in every setting.
- The measures are aimed at reducing transmission by unvaccinated people at recreational and social events and activities.
- People have a choice choose to get vaccinated to protect yourself, your loved ones
  and your community. Or don't get vaccinated and stay away from these social and
  recreational settings.
- There will be tailored plans for schools and post-secondaries, and we will have more to say on this shortly.
- Other businesses or institutions may choose to adopt their own vaccination policies beyond the designated settings but would be responsible for doing their own due diligence.

## Are you still considering extending the proof of vaccine requirement to other settings (incl. health care)?

• We continue to look at all options to protect people in B.C., based on the evidence-based advice from public health.

### Will the workers in these establishments need to be vaccinated?

- We aren't making vaccination mandatory for employment at this time, other than in specific areas of the health system starting with Long Term Care and Assisted Living Facilities.
- However, we continue to monitor the data and look at all options to keep people safe in B.C., based on the evidence-based advice from public health.
- We expect the measures announced today will encourage the vast majority of people working in these settings to be vaccinated, in order to continue to attend the specified social and recreational events and settings.
- Businesses or institutions may choose to adopt their own vaccination policies beyond the designated settings but would be responsible for doing their own due diligence.

## Will there be vaccination mandates for workers in other high-risk settings?

- We aren't making vaccination mandatory for employment at this time, other than in specific areas of the health system starting with Long Term Care and Assisted Living Facilities.
- However, we continue to monitor the data and look at all options to keep people safe in B.C., based on the evidence-based advice from public health.

## Why didn't you do this earlier?

- Vaccines have changed the way we live with COVID-19 and have helped us greatly in getting back to the things we love to do.
- But COVID-19 is still with us, and more transmissible variants like the Delta variant mean it can spread rapidly, even among vaccinated people.
- Most people in B.C. have stepped up, getting two doses of vaccine to protect themselves and their communities.
- But it is clear that further action is needed to help put this pandemic behind us we need more protection, in the form of even higher vaccination rates.

## What about drive-throughs?

 Proof of vaccination is not required for drive-thru restaurants, as long as the food is not taken inside the establishment to eat.

## Why do people not have to be fully vaccinated until October 5.13

- We want everyone to get vaccinated now and be able to continue supporting these places.
- Younger people have only been eligible to be vaccinated for a few months.
- And summer is a busy time for many. We know things like work and family schedules may make it difficult for some people to find the time to get the vaccine.
- A phased implementation gives people the time they need to get vaccinated, with both doses of vaccine.

## Will I need a vaccine passport/proof-of-vaccination certificate to travel internationally?

- B.C. is working with the federal government and other provinces and territories on what a proof-of-vaccination certificate might look like for Canadians for international travel, with the federal government as the lead.
- It is anticipated to be ready this fall.
- s.13; s.16

## Will I need a proof-of-vaccination certificate to access private sector supports, programs or services?

The order will only apply to the list of settings identified in the PHO Order.

## If a person is asked to provide proof of vaccination to, for example, access services, business premises or to attend an event in B.C., what should they do?

- If you aren't vaccinated, register for your vaccine now! Or walk-into a vaccine clinic.
- Prior to attending an event or business that requires proof of vaccination, individuals will need to access their proof of vaccination record.
- People will be able to securely and confidentially access their proof of vaccination online.
- At admission to one of the designated businesses or activities, individuals will show their proof of vaccination (phone or paper copy) and show 1 other piece of ID such as Driver's licence or BC Services Card to confirm identify.
- No copy or record will be kept by the business or event, and it is at the discretion of the individual to show the information.

## Will you introduce legislation/regulation to guide businesses in the private sector that might want to require proof of vaccination?

- No.
- Employers are accountable for ensuring their workers' safety and should have in place COVID-19 safety plans – including a requirement to stay home when sick, and regular hand washing.
- Employers may decide to implement additional safety measures, including the decision to require vaccination for their employees, or specific requirements for staff working in their businesses who are not vaccinated, such as more frequent rapid testing and/or mask wearing.
- Given the higher transmissibility of the delta variant, all businesses should review the adequacy of their plans.

## Will the proof of vaccination requirement apply to employees at venues (concert halls, restaurants etc.) covered by the vaccination mandate?

- We aren't making vaccination mandatory for employment, other than in specific areas
  of the health system starting with Long Term Care and Assisted Living Facilities.
- Employers are accountable for ensuring their workers' safety and should have in place COVID-19 safety plans – including a requirement to stay home when sick, and regular hand washing.
- Given the higher transmissibility of the delta variant, all businesses should review the adequacy of their plans.
- We continue to monitor the data and look at all options to keep people safe in B.C., based on the evidence-based advice from public health.
- The initiatives announced today are to assist in reducing overall transmission over the fall and winter.
- We strongly recommend that every eligible individual in BC get themselves vaccinated this is the best way to protect yourself, your family and friends, and your community.

## Will businesses/organizations be able to set their own requirement for proof of vaccine in venues beyond those covered by the PHO order?

• We are introducing a provincial proof of vaccine requirement for designated settings removes the need for these businesses to set their own vaccine requirement.

- The PHO Order provides a solid basis for businesses to use this approach and prevents them from having to defend any action they might have taken individually in this regard.
- The use of additional measures in other settings will be an individual business decision.
- We recommend that any further actions are based on the evidence-based guidance provided by BCCDC.
- Again, the initiatives announced today are to assist in reducing overall transmission over the fall and winter considering the experience of the Delta variance on transmission.

## Will post secondary institutions be permitted to adopt their own proof of vaccine requirement that applies beyond student residences and varsity sports?

- We believe strongly in the importance of returning to campus-based teaching for postsecondary institutions this fall.
- We urge every eligible person in B.C. to get vaccinated this is the best way to protect yourself, your family and friends, and your community.
- There will be a requirement to be vaccinated to live in a post-secondary residence; as well as the requirement announced today for proof of vaccination to access a range of social and recreational settings and services. This requirement will apply to those same settings on post-secondary campuses
- Again, the initiatives announced today are to assist in reducing overall transmission over the fall and winter considering the experience of the Delta variance on transmission.
- Post-secondary institutions, like other businesses or organizations, may choose to adopt their own vaccination policies beyond the PHO order, but would be required to do their own due diligence.

### Are libraries included?

No.

## What about outdoor events like the PNE and fairs that have indoor components like barns and indoor attractions that visitors attend?

- Proof of vaccination would be required to access designated spaces.
- For example, an indoor restaurant or beer garden.



## SPEAKING NOTES Vaccination certification August 23, 2021

## Headline

Premier John Horgan announces new measures to protect people

## Quote

"Getting vaccinated protects you and your family," Premier John Horgan said. "It protects your neighbours. The more people who are vaccinated the safer it is for all of us. It brings us closer to putting the pandemic behind us and returning to the life we once knew."

## **Audience**

• Press theatre with Minister Dix, PHO Dr. Bonnie Henry, and reporters

## **Format**

• 3-minute speech at podium followed by media scrum

Speaking notes begin on the next page

Good afternoon.

[Land acknowledgement].

I'm joined today by PHO Dr. Bonnie Henry and Minister Dix.

This has been a summer unlike any other.

Before we get to today's announcement, I want to offer thanks to some brave people on behalf of all British Columbians.

Thank you to all the crews and volunteers battling wildfires throughout the province.

You are engaged in a difficult and dangerous fight.

Thank you to everyone on the firelines and all those on the frontlines assisting in evacuations.

Thanks to the BC Wildfire Service, Emergency Management BC, local and First Nations governments for all you are doing. We know your efforts have saved lives and property.

We also know your work is not yet done.

We want you to know we have your backs.

That is how we do things here in B.C.

We work together – in ways small and large – to make things better for everyone.

That is also how we have faced the pandemic.

The largest immunization program in the province's history has led to the full vaccination of almost three of every four eligible British Columbians.

Getting vaccinated keeps everyone safe and slows the spread of Covid-19.

The recent surge in cases in people who are unvaccinated shows that more needs to be done.

It is time for next steps.

Starting on **September 13**, proof of vaccination will be required to access many private and public events, services, and businesses.

If you wish to keep attending these places and events, you will need to be vaccinated.

Of course, getting vaccinated is a choice.

It is a personal choice -- with consequences.

As it should be.

We are making this announcement today so those who have yet to get their vaccination can do so.

Book your appointment today.

Take advantage of walk-in clinics.

We are continuing to work with businesses to ensure a smooth transition to these new health measures.

Getting vaccinated protects you and your family.

It protects your neighbours.

The more people who are vaccinated the safer it is for all of us.

It also brings us closer to putting the pandemic behind us and returning to the life we once knew.

Thank you.

Now Dr. Henry will provide more details.

## **Issues Scan**

Monday, August 23, 2021 Victoria

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## **Wildfires**

## Background:

- Since April 1, 2021, the BC Wildfire Service has responded to 1,538 wildfires, resulting in over 862,000 hectares of area burned.
- There are currently 248 active fires and 27 considered wildfires of note (15 of which are in the Kamloops Fire Centre).
- As a result of cooler weather across the province, fire severity has been dropping. Rain over the weekend is expected to bring some additional reprieve.
- There are currently 14,285 properties on evacuation alert and just under 4,000 on evacuation order.
- As of August 18th, 826 long-term care residents had been relocated, with 49 moves still pending. Most are being temporarily housed at other long-term care facilities in the Lower Mainland or elsewhere in the Interior.
- Interior Health has also rescheduled approx. 600 elective surgical procedures from Aug. 6th to 27th at Kelowna General Hospital, Royal Inland Hospital (Kamloops), and Vernon Jubilee Hospital.
- The Mount Hayes fire near Ladysmith is currently 70 hectares in size. The fire is on privately managed forest land (owned by Mosaic) and is currently being triaged by BC Wildfire from the air with both helicopters and a water bomber. A Fortis LNG plant is 1.5km away.

## Message:

- Being asked to leave your home, or living day to day, seeing the smoke or flames, and knowing that an order could come at any moment is incredibly difficult.
- The 2021 wildfire season continues to be one of the most difficult to date.
- I want to express my sincere thanks to the thousands of men and women working tirelessly and putting themselves in harm's way to protect our communities.
- We have been throwing everything we've got at these fires and pulling in resources from across the country and around the globe.
- We will continue to work with local governments, First Nations, federal agencies, and industry to marshal all available resources to fight these fires and support the people who are being impacted.

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## White Rock Lake Fire and Monte Lake

## Background:

- On July 13th, the White Rock Lake fire was reported around 4pm. BC Wildfire Crews arrived within 30 minutes to begin work.
- The fire was burning aggressively in heavy timber and already 10 hectares in size, this fire grew to 300 hectares by the next day.
- There was heightened activity throughout the province (over 300 fires), and multiple interface fires threatening homes and infrastructure in the region.
- A number of Monte Lake residents disobeyed evacuation orders to stay behind and fight the fires themselves. A number of homes were destroyed in the fire.
- On August 9th, a mini-documentary alleging BCWS was slow to respond and highlighting people who stayed to fight the fire on their own was released. It has been viewed nearly 175,000 times.
- The fire has grown to reach the western shore of Okanagan lake and destroyed a number of other houses. It is currently about 80,745 hectares.
- Portions of Kamloops, Armstrong and Vernon have been on evacuation alert at various points over the past weeks.

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## **Leaked Wildfire Memo**

## Background:

- Global received a leaked memo from a July 12th meeting between BC Wildfire and forestry executives. The note was written by an industry participant who misconstrued some of the conversation particularly regarding resourcing.
- Media have reported that the memo shows BCWS lacked resources and in particular air resources.
- The memo reference to air resources is related to backcountry resources, not those used to fight interface fires.
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- SafeGuard, a private mass water delivery company, has alleged BC Wildfire has left valuable resources on the sideline in efforts to fight the Okanagan fires.

## Message:

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## COVID-19

## Background:

- On Aug. 20, B.C. announced 663 cases. 274 in the Interior, 162 in Fraser, 135 in VCH, 54 in VIHA, and 38 in the North.
- There were 1 new death. 6,345 active cases. 129 people are in hospital.
- Dr. Henry announced new public health orders for all of Interior Health: mandatory masks in indoor public spaces; indoor personal gatherings max. 1 household or 5 guests, and outdoor personal gatherings max. 50 people; organized gatherings max. 50 people indoors or 100 people outdoors; high intensity exercise classes suspended; new size limits for indoor & outdoor group exercise.
- Media have commented that the growth in cases no longer appears limited to the Interior Health region. Dr. Henry says the situation is qualitatively different in the Interior, where immunization rates are lower.
- Media has been asking for daily data on "breakthrough cases." Starting Monday that will be available in the daily written statements.

## Message:

- I want to express my thanks to the healthcare workers and public health professionals who have been working so hard - especially in Interior Health facing the double challenges of COVID-19 and wildfires.
- We have made tremendous progress with our immunization program.
- But we are seeing this increase of cases in people who are not vaccinated and need to get even more people vaccinated.
- Immunization is a personal choice. But it's going to be a choice that has consequences.
- I urge anyone who hasn't gotten a shot to book your appointment today so you're ready when this requirement comes in and can keep doing the things you love.
- Getting more people vaccinated is one of the most important things we can do to bring these numbers down.

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## Post-Secondary Return to Campus

## Background:

- Media have been asking for updates on whether there will be mandatory vaccination, and mandatory masks at post-secondary institutions - as requested by students, faculty, and staff.
- For the past week, government has been saying that public health is reviewing their Return to Campus Guidelines and will have more to say soon.
- The proof of vaccination requirement will apply to the same kinds of spaces on campuses (i.e., on-campus restaurants, gyms etc.).
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## Message:

- We've been listening to students, faculty and staff, and public health has been working closely with colleges and universities to update the guidelines for the return to campus.
- This new provincial proof of vaccination requirement will apply to places like oncampus restaurants, s.13 and gyms to get more people vaccinated.
- Additional measures are coming. Public health will have more to say tomorrow.
- I'm confident Dr. Henry and public health will have the right measures in place to keep students, faculty, and staff safe on campus and give them the confidence they need for a successful return to campus.

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## K-12 Back to School

## Background:

- The K-12 steering committee continues to meet to discuss the safety guidelines, in consultation with BCCDC, to ensure we are prepared for September's return to school.
- On June 17, 2021, we announced \$43.6 million to support a safe return to school for students and staff for investments including enhanced cleaning measures, and to support First Nations and Métis students, mental health services, learning impacts to students as well as rapid response teams.
- With this funding in place, school districts have the resources to continue providing the quality education that students deserve in a way that supports their social and emotional well-being, and to continue to do so in classrooms full-time.

## Message:

- Ensuring kids can learn safely is a top priority. I'm very proud of the work we didworking with public health and with teachers, school staff, parents, and administrators to keep kids learning over the past year.
- We understand that parents and school staff want clear, accurate and up-to-date information going into the upcoming school year so they can feel safe.
- That's why we worked hard to provide British Columbians with initial health and safety guidance for schools in June, as well as a recovery plan for school boards and independent schools.
- As we have since the beginning of the pandemic, we will base our safety plans on the most current information on the virus and the rollout of the provincial vaccination campaign.
- We are continuing to work closely with public health experts and our provincial K-12 steering committee to finalize plans to ensure the safety of students and staff, and we will have further details in the coming days.

## Fairy Creek/ Old Growth

## Background:

- On August 21st, police used pepper spray on protesters after a significant confrontation at HQ Camp.
- Approximately 30 people were arrested bringing total arrests to 740 individuals.
- Videos are circulating of people being arrested and tackled by police. One police
  officer and one protester were injured and assessed by medical crews.
- The Federal NDP sent a letter to Minister Bill Blair calling for a full review of police actions.
- On Saturday, Jonathan Wilkinson made a campaign promise of \$50 million for a "BC Old Growth Nature Fund" to help permanently protect old growth forests.

## Message:

- We are charting a different path forward on old growth. After years of divisiveness and a previous government that refused to take action.
- Our approach prioritizes reconciliation and environmental protection.
- In June we announced a new, independent technical panel who are working to ensure we're using the best science and data available to identify at-risk old growth ecosystems and prioritize areas for deferral.

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- Decisions on specific protections will continue to be based on government-togovernment discussions with First Nations rights and title holders.
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## On RCMP actions:

- Government doesn't direct the RCMP in policing operations.
- There are civilian oversight and review bodies to consider any complaints brought forward by the public.

## **George Massey Tunnel Replacement**

## Background:

- On Wednesday, August 18 Minister Fleming announced that the George Massey Tunnel would be replaced by a new 8-lane immersed tube tunnel.
- The project is budgeted at \$4.15 billion.
- Construction on the tunnel will begin in 2025 and be completed in 2030.
- Critics say three driving lanes each way won't alleviate existing congestion.
- Truckers have been in the media saying the tunnel doesn't address concerns for transportation of goods in the region.

## Message:

- The new toll-free tunnel is the right project for the region and has been endorsed by the Metro Vancouver Board.
- The new tunnel will have eight lanes, including dedicated lanes for transit in both directions.
- The tunnel will also include lanes for safe active transportation such as walking or cycling.
- We are also taking action right now to reduce traffic congestion along the Highway 99 corridor, including replacement of the Steveston Interchange.
- We are committed to continue working closely with Indigenous groups, municipalities, TransLink, and key stakeholders to get people moving quickly in the region.

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## **Lytton**

## Background:

- The Lytton Creek fire continues to burn outside of city limits and northwest of Merritt and the Lower Nicola Indian Band.
- Former Lytton resident Carel Moiseiwitsch has filed a potential class-action lawsuit against both the Canadian Pacific (CP) and Canadian National (CN) rail companies, claiming their negligence caused the fire that burned down her community.
- The lawsuit, says the defendants knew, or ought to have known, that the weather conditions in the area at the time made it unsafe for trains to operate.
- The Transportation Safety Board is still investigating the cause of the fire, as both CN and CP trains had been operating in the area when it started.
- On August 4th, the Insurance Bureau of Canada said 300 claims had been made in relation to the Lytton fire, totaling around \$78 million.
- On August 1st, nearly 60 residents and 12 businesses wrote to Minister Osborne asking for the province to support the village's elected officials on rebuilding.

## Message:

- The past month has been a difficult time for Lytton and the surrounding Indigenous communities, and our thoughts are with them.
- My colleagues and I have been in regular contact with the mayor to offer support.
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- Emergency Support Services is providing support to evacuees, including accommodation, food, and clothing.
- Additionally, we announced a \$2000 one-time payment to support households from the Lytton area.
- We'll keep listening to the community to determine how we can best support them moving forward through recovery and rebuilding.

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