



CITY COUNCIL

**Monday, October 25, 2021
10:00 AM**

Henry Baker Hall, Main Floor, City Hall



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

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**Agenda
City Council
Monday, October 25, 2021**

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

DELEGATIONS AND CITY MANAGER REPORT

DE21-282 Serena Ward: COVID-19 Update

DE21-283 Kieran Conway: COVID-19 Update

DE21-284 Erin Schmuland: COVID-19 Update

CM21-20 COVID-19 Update

Recommendation

That City Council approve Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination or Negative Test Requirements for all City of Regina facilities as outlined in Appendix A.

Adjournment



COVID-19 Update

Date	October 25, 2021
To	City Council
From	City Manager's Office
Service Area	City Manager's Office
Item No.	CM21-20

RECOMMENDATION

That City Council approve Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination or Negative Test Requirements for all City of Regina facilities as outlined in Appendix A.

ISSUE

Given the current situation affecting our healthcare system and the high risk of COVID-19 transmission being uncontrolled across Saskatchewan, the Administration is recommending the expansion of Proof of Vaccination or Negative Test Requirements for all City of Regina (City) facilities, except for Regina Public Libraries and the Transit Information Centre, effective November 1, 2021.

IMPACTS

PROVINCIAL PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER

On October 1, 2021, the Government of Saskatchewan issued Public Health Order, *Proof of Vaccination or Negative COVID-19 Test*. The order required individuals over the age of 12 to show proof of full vaccination or a negative test to access certain establishments, businesses and events. The Order has since been updated to expand the types of businesses required to comply and extended to November 30, 2021.

The City implemented the Public Health Order on October 1, 2021, which required proof of vaccination or a negative test at the following City facilities:

- At our major recreation centres for visitors over the age of 12 (except for youth, under 18, participating in sport or recreational activities)
- At our community centres for fitness activities
- At City Hall to access the cafeteria
- At arenas for ticketed sporting events (a sporting event is considered “ticketed” only if the GST has been charged on the price of the ticket)

CONSULTATION WITH THE SASKATCHEWN HEALTH AUTHORITY

The Administration has been working closely with medical experts to monitor the situation and assess options to ensure the health and safety of the employees and the community, while ensuring continuity of City services.

The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) is continually assessing the situation locally and is reviewing the research and action undertaken by other jurisdictions. Currently, Saskatchewan has the highest rate of cases per 100,000 population and the lowest vaccination rate in Canada. Some of the main data points being monitored include: number of cases, number of tests, test positivity rate, reproductive value, number of hospitalizations and number of people vaccinated.

Although these indicators have been trending downwards in Regina since September 27, 2021, the risk remains high that COVID transmission remains uncontrolled across Saskatchewan with approximately 25 per cent of eligible residents remaining to be full vaccinated. The current situation affecting our healthcare system is expected to continue into the winter.

COMMUNICATIONS

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the City has been committed to providing residents and employees with timely information on service and program adjustments, as well as encouraging our community and staff to follow public health guidance.

The City has acted as a champion for the SHA on key public health messages and we will continue to reinforce the following messages:

- We are creating safe spaces within our community by requiring proof of vaccination or a negative test for those 12 and older at City facilities

- Please take care with family and friends by limiting your household gatherings to your family and one other family
- Vaccination is the best defense for positive health outcomes – please #StickItToCOVID and get vaccinated

Information will be shared on Regina.ca/covid19, via radio and social media platforms, including Twitter and Facebook. The City will continue to issue public service announcements and provide opportunities for regular media briefings.

DISCUSSION

To date, the implementation of Proof of COVID Vaccination or Negative Test Requirements for City facilities has aligned to the October 1, 2021, Public Health Order. Administration is recommending expansion to all City facilities, except for Regina Public Libraries and the Transit Information Centre, effective November 1, 2021. The Government of Saskatchewan's Public Health Order exempts public libraries and transit services from the proof of vaccination or negative test requirement.

The expansion to other City facilities would follow the same process and procedures in the Public Health Order but broaden the scope to include this as a requirement to access all programs and services within City facilities identified in Appendix A.

Administration is recommending that everyone over the age of 12 be required to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination or negative test for access to all indoor facilities and arenas. In order to support the expansion, wherever possible, security personnel would be in place at City facilities to confirm proof of COVID-19 vaccination or negative test upon entry. In the event security personnel are not available, City staff would be redeployed.

Upon approval by City Council, Administration would implement this requirement at City facilities, effective November 1, 2021. There are sufficient funds in the COVID-19 Reserve to offset the projected operational costs associated with implementing these expanded measures.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council considered *CM21-18, COVID-19 Update* on September 15, 2021. The report provided an update on the City's COVID-19 response.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, City Council considered *CM20-7 COVID-19 Update* on March 20, 2020, and approved the activation of the Emergency Operations Centre to respond to the crisis.

On April 15, 2020, City Council considered *CM20-8 COVID-19 Financial Update* and delegated additional powers to the City Manager during the state of emergency.

On April 29, 2020, City Council considered *The COVID-19 Pandemic Bylaw* relating to the adoption of a bylaw to temporarily adjust certain timelines and requirements while public health orders are in place.

On May 27, 2020, City Council considered *CM20-13 COVID-19 Update* which provided updates on the City Manager's decisions through his delegated authority, the Municipal Economic Enhancement Program funding announced by the Saskatchewan government and Administration's plan to safely reopen services to the public.

On June 24, 2020, City Council considered *CR20-64 COVID-19 Update* relating to necessary bylaw amendments.

On September 30, 2020, City Council considered *Motion MN20-22 Mandatory Masks* on the implementation of a mask bylaw.

On December 2, 2020, City Council considered *CM20-34 COVID-19 Update* which detailed numerous actions undertaken by the City of Regina since the last report was considered by Council.

Respectfully Submitted,



Louise Folk, Executive Director
People & Transformation

Respectfully Submitted,



Chris Holden
City Manager

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A - Implementation Plan for Proof of Vaccination or Negative Test Requirements

Implementation Plan for Proof of Vaccination or Negative Test Requirements

Proof of Full Vaccination

The Government of Saskatchewan has established the following acceptable forms of proof of full vaccination:

- Wallet cards received at time of immunization
- A printed copy or screenshot of your MySaskHealthRecord vaccination certificate (with or without a QR code)
- A COVID-19 vaccine printout from SHA Public Health
- A QR code/MySaskHealthRecord vaccine certificate uploaded to SK Vax Wallet app
- Official proof of vaccine documents from other governments may be considered

Proof of Negative Test

Individuals who do not have proof of vaccination have the option of providing proof of a negative COVID-19 rapid antigen or polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test result from within the last 72 hours. This test is to be done at the expense of the individual. A list of locations and labs offering testing services is available at www.saskatchewan.ca. Self-administered take-home rapid antigen tests (e.g., pictures of negative tests) will not be accepted.

ID Required

In addition to the proof of vaccination or negative test, photo ID will be required from anyone 18 and older. Youth aged 12 to 17 will also need to show ID unless accompanied by an adult with proof of vaccination and ID. Youth aged 12 to 17, visiting a City facility without an adult, who do not have photo ID will be allowed to present photo ID, birth certificates or health services card.

Applicable City Facilities

Major Recreation Centres

- Sportplex – Fieldhouse & Lawson Aquatic Centre
- North West Leisure Centre
- Sandra Schmirler Leisure Centre
- Neil Balkwill Civic Arts Centre

Indoor Arenas

- Al Ritchie Memorial Arena
- Balfour Arena
- Hamilton Arena
- Kinsmen Arena
- Clarence Mahon Arena
- Optimist Arena
- Jack Staples Arena
- Doug Wickenheiser Arena

Neighbourhood, Community and Senior Centres

- Arcola East Community Centre
- Argyle Park Community Centre
- Cathedral Neighbourhood Centre
- Core Ritchie Neighbourhood Centre
- Eastview Community Centre
- Glencairn Neighbourhood Recreation Centre
- North East Community Centre (Imperial School)
- Uplands Community Centre
- Regina Senior Citizens Centre
- Regina Senior Citizens Elphinstone Street Centre
- South Leisure Centre
- māmawēyatitân Centre

Regina Floral Conservatory

Exempt Facilities

- Regina Public Libraries
- Transit Information Centre

The above requirements do not apply if an individual is entering the premises solely to use a washroom or the purposes of health and safety which may include vaccination clinics, heating and cooling stations, food security programs or other services that address basic needs.