A Plan to Safely Reopen Ontario and Manage COVID-19 for the Long Term

### Monitoring COVID-19
- As the province safely reopens, the government will monitor trends in COVID-19 provincial and local public health and health system indicators, including:
  - new ICU admissions and hospitalizations
  - test positivity
  - weekly cases incidence rates
  - vaccination coverage rates
- It will be particularly important to monitor trends in indicators over the winter holidays and as students return to schools in January

### Managing COVID-19 for the long term
- As the province manages COVID-19 for the long term, responses will be localized and tailored based on local context and conditions
- Local indicators will also inform any decision to apply additional measures to specific public health regions at the discretion of the local medical officer of health

### Key principles:
- ongoing monitoring and testing
- infrastructure in place to manage outbreaks
- targeted, localized measures based on local context and conditions
- minimize disruption to business and individuals

### Sample measures that may be implemented locally or regionally could include:
- reintroduce capacity limits and/or physical distancing requirements (percent and/or hard caps)
- add settings where proof of vaccination is required
- reduce gathering limits
- apply public health and workplace safety measures in specific settings where transmission is occurring
- recommend or require work from home, where possible

### Fall 2021
- **September 22, 2021**
  - Begin to require proof of vaccination in higher-risk indoor settings
- **September 25, 2021**
  - Begin easing capacity limits in certain settings
- **October 9, 2021**
  - Lift capacity limits in certain settings where proof of vaccination is required
- **October 22, 2021**
  - Enhanced vaccine certificate with official QR code and Verify Ontario app launched
- **October 25, 2021**
  - Lift capacity limits in certain settings where proof of vaccination is required
  - restaurants and bars
  - sports, recreational fitness facilities (such as, gyms), physical fitness training and waterparks
  - casinos, bingo halls, and other gaming establishments
  - meeting and event spaces (indoor)

### Winter 2021-2022
- **November 15, 2021**
  - Lift capacity limits in other high-risk settings where proof of vaccination is required:
    - food or drink establishments with dance facilities such as, night clubs, wedding receptions in meeting/event spaces where there is dancing
    - strip clubs
    - bathhouses and sex clubs
- **January 17, 2022**
  - restaurants and bars
  - sports and recreational fitness facilities (such as, gyms) and waterparks
  - casinos, bingo halls, etc.
- **February 7, 2022**
  - night clubs
  - strip clubs
  - bathhouses and sex clubs
- **March 28, 2022**
  - meeting and event spaces
  - sporting events
  - concerts, theatres and cinemas
  - racing venues
  - commercial and film productions with studio audiences

### Spring 2022
- **March 28, 2022 (and onwards)**
  - All remaining public health and workplace safety measures in businesses and organizations lifted, including masking
  - Revoke public health Emergency Orders under the Reopening Ontario Act
  - Recommendations on where masking could be maintained (such as transit)

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### Winter 2021-2022
- In the absence of concerning trends, begin to lift vaccine certificate requirements, starting with the lowest risk settings, as follows:
  - **January 17, 2022**
    - restaurants and bars
    - sports and recreational fitness facilities (such as, gyms) and waterparks
    - casinos, bingo halls, etc.
  - **February 7, 2022**
    - night clubs
    - strip clubs
    - bathhouses and sex clubs
  - **March 28, 2022**
    - meeting and event spaces
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### Spring 2022
- Also begin to lift CMOH directives and capacity limits in settings where proof of vaccination is not required.

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**Timeline:**
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- **October 25, 2021**
  - Permit certain settings to lift capacity limits if they require proof of vaccination, including, but not limited to:
    - museums, galleries, etc.
    - religious services, rites, or ceremonies
    - tour and guide services
    - personal care services, including barber shops, salons, body art
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