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

## **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 where proof of vaccination is required in:

- 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)

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

### 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)

## Fall 2021

#### **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

## Winter 2021-2022

# Spring 2022

## 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

Also begin to lift CMOH directives and capacity limits in settings where proof of vaccination is not required.

## **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

number

- effective reproduction

- 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:

In the absence of concerning trends, begin to lift vaccine certificate requirements, starting with the lowest risk settings, as follows:

- 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