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From: CLRInfo
Sent: December 17, 2021 2:52 PM
To: Ken McCormack
Cc: Paul Strangway; Joleen Kaminski
Subject: CLR Info - Important Covid Update

Importance: High

[CLR Members,](#)

Please see the following important announcements from the Provincial Health Officer this afternoon. There are important restrictions put in place for the Holiday Season.

The Federal and BC governments announced new public health restrictions today to control the accelerated spread of COVID-19.

[NEW RESTRICTIONS FOR BC STARTING MIDNIGHT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 THROUGH JANUARY 31](#)

- Personal indoor gatherings in rental and vacation properties are limited to residents plus 10 guests, or two households maximum if everyone is vaccinated.
- The BC Vaccination Card must be presented at all organized events of any size.
- Movement at food establishments such as restaurants and bars is restricted. There can be no mingling of tables or visiting people at other tables.
- There are no capacity or operating hour restrictions on bars and restaurants.
- Venues of 1,000 or more are limited to 50% capacity.
- All sports tournaments are paused. Games are allowed but not more than two teams may come together at a competition.
- New Year's Eve parties at public venues are cancelled. Restaurants can stay open but diners must stay at their tables and with their small group.
- Provincial travel is not restricted due to COVID-19 but may still be restricted for other reasons, for example in areas hit by recent flooding.
- Interprovincial travel is not restricted but this is a very uncertain time and travelers must navigate changing restrictions in all jurisdictions, at potential personal risk.
- Churches must operate within capacity limits and are required to implement the Vaccine Passport.
- The BC booster program is being accelerated to 6 months for youth (previously 8 months).

[New Federal Restrictions Also Announced](#)

- Canadians are advised to avoid all non-essential travel outside the country for the time being. Christmas travel plans should be cancelled.
- Starting on Tuesday December 21, Canada will again require a negative PCR pre-arrival test for all travelers, including double-vaccinated Canadians and Permanent Residents, and those who were leaving for less than 72 hours.
- The travel ban on 10 African countries will be lifted as of Saturday night.

[More information from the BC industry briefing earlier today](#)

- Family gatherings are up to the individuals involved: if a member of your family is not vaccinated, gather based on your own comfort with risk for that person's health. Keep gatherings small, open the windows, reduce the risk.

- Temporary Foreign Workers will be provided vaccines and boosters on arrival in Canada as needed.
- Working from home is recommended as a best practise if possible.
- Conferences are not being canceled or restricted for the time being. However organizers should make sure that only vaccinated people are attending, and stick to the COVID safety plans that we have had in place - space, ventilation, masks, distancing - as well as other restrictions.
- The booster dose is not part of the Vaccine passport as yet.
- This is not the time to be hosting company holiday parties.
- Children are not included in the vaccination card program, but they should be vaccinated. Children can become ill and bring the virus home and it can be very disruptive in their lives.
- Booster shots are now being scheduled for people whose second dose was more than 6 months ago.
- Any mixture of vaccine types is safe and effective.

Christmas is always a time for family and friends to get together and celebrate, but these are not normal times. Please maintain your diligence and protect the health and safety of yourself others.

Otherwise, if I do not have contact with you over the next week, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ken McCormack | President & CEO



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