COVID PROTOCOLS GUIDEBOOK FOR THE ARTS SECTOR AND LIVE EVENTS ALBERTA RESTRICTIONS EXEMPTION PROGRAM

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About the Alberta Restrictions Exemption Program

RESTRICTION GUIDELINES

In addition to the restrictions outlined in <u>CMOH Order</u> <u>42-2021</u>, as of September 20, 2021, the Government of Alberta has implemented <u>The Restrictions Exemption</u> <u>Program (REP)</u> for qualifying event organizers.

Please note that as of September 23, 2021, the City of Calgary has implemented the Vaccine Passport Bylaw 65M2021, where all event organizers, along with all other in-scope businesses, must implement a proof of vaccination or negative test screening for all patrons requesting services in Calgary. You can find the details of the bylaw <u>here</u>.

The REP is not intended or required for employees or contractors working at the events, rather it is intended for event guests. Employees and contractors should be made aware the event organizer is participating in the REP so that requirements can be properly implemented.

Face masks are mandatory for all indoor spaces. Individuals who have COVID-19 symptoms (see p. 7 of the guidebook for more information) must isolate, in accordance with <u>CMOH Order 9-2021</u>.

Event organizers who are participating in the REP must communicate to the public/clients/staff that they are participating in the program, and what is required to enter the venue.

Organizers that rent facilities to other groups (for private events) are responsible to ensure that the renting group is aware of the need to adhere to public health orders unless the rental group implements the REP. As event organizers, you are responsible for adhering to the public health restrictions in your facility.

Those who are considered in-scope and thus qualify for the REP are the following:

- Restaurants
- Nightclubs
- Casinos, bingo halls, VLT lounges
- Entertainment/Rec centres

 (eg. bowling, racing entertainment, arcades, billiards
 halls, museums, art galleries, and other similar
 entertainment)
- Movie theatres
- Recreation facilities (e.g., physical activity), fitness
- Conferences / meeting spaces / halls and rented space (excluding dwelling units)
- Weddings and funerals held in public facilities where the facility maintains responsibility for adherence to these requirements
- Professional sporting events (spectator)
- Professional performance events (spectator)
- Private social events held in public facilities where the facility maintains responsibility for adherence to these requirements
- Adult recreational sport groups (players/participants)
- Recreation classes/activities (outside physical activity)
- Amenities in hotels and condos

REP Screening Criteria

In accordance with the REP guidelines, event organizers must screen all guests for one of the following at the point of entry.

PROOF OF VACCINATION, which includes:

- A picture or paper record of a valid Alberta Health Services, <u>MyHealth Records</u>, pharmacy, First Nations, or physician immunization record prominently displaying the name, type of vaccine and date of administration, or
- Canadian armed forces immunization record, displaying the name, type of vaccine and date of administration, or
- An immunization record from another Canadian province or territory, displaying the name, type of vaccine and date of administration, or
- Valid Government of Alberta Vaccination QR code (when available).

Please note that event organizers must verify that the date of administration of the last required dose in the series is at least 14 days prior to the date the event guest is seeking access to the business/entity/event.

- Before October 25, 2021, at least one dose of a twodose vaccine must be shown. After October 25 2021, both doses must be shown.
- This does not include the Janssen vaccine, the only onedose vaccine approved by Health Canada.
- It is the responsibility of the event guest to provide a legitimate vaccination record. If not, they must not be allowed to enter the venue.

PROOF OF NEGATIVE PRIVATELY-PAID TEST

- A result from a sample that is taken within the prior 72 hours (Results from Alberta Health Services are not eligible for consideration for this program).
- The test result should be a written or printed copy that indicates the individual has tested negative for COVID-19 on a Health Canada approved rapid antigen, rapid PCR, or labbased PCR test approved by Health Canada or the lab accreditation body of jurisdiction.

AN ORIGINAL (NON-COPIED) MEDICAL EXEMPTION LETTER from a physician or nurse practitioner

- The name of the person in the written documentation that matches the identification provided.
- The physician's or nurse practitioner's information is complete by including:
 - Name, phone number, contact information, professional registration number, and a signature of the physician or nurse practitioner.
 - Statement that there is a medical reason for the individual's exemption from being fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
 - The duration that the exemption is valid.

Valid Personal Identification Preparation & Helpful Tools

IDENTIFICATION

Individuals 12 years or older must produce valid personal identification. Approved forms of identification include:

- Birth Certificate
- Citizenship Card
- Driver's Licence
- Government (Alberta or other) issued identification card, including Health Card
- Metis Card, Treaty Card, Inuit Status Card
- Passport
- Permanent Resident Card

For more information on COVID-19 guidance, event organizers are encouraged to visit Alberta's <u>General Guidance and</u> <u>Resources</u> page.

PREPARATION

Event organizers participating in the REP must maintain a written plan that outlines the processes and requirements of the program. Staff need to be trained on the plan including processes and steps to protect personal information. This should include training for staff, information for clientele, and a written plan for auditing purposes and policies for what to do if individuals are non-compliant.

HELPFUL TOOLS

- Alberta MyHealth App
- <u>COVID-19 Rapid Testing Resources</u>
- <u>City of Calgary Vaccine Passport Bylaw</u>
- Calgary Chamber of Commerce FAQs on the Restriction Exemption Program