

March 31, 2022

Dear Municipal Partners,

RE: UPDATED Medical Officer of Health Recommendations for Workplace COVID-19 Vaccination Policies

Thank you for your outstanding efforts over the past two years, during the COVID-19 pandemic, to put in place practices, policies and employee supports to help control the spread of COVID-19 within your businesses and organizations. COVID-19 is still present in the KFL&A region and there is still risk of transmission and infection in our communities. While there is some uncertainty as to the future of the COVID-19 pandemic, vaccination, along with other preventive measures, will remain a very important defense against COVID-19. Employers have an obligation to maintain a safe work environment for their workers. They may also consider the need to maintain continuity of their operations.

As such, at this time of transition, when the remaining provincial measures are being lifted, I have updated our recommendations for workplace COVID-19 vaccination policies (attached). I continue to recommend that all local employers have a workplace COVID-19 vaccination policy to protect workers and the public. The nature of the policy should be in keeping with the current evidence on vaccine effectiveness against the predominant variant of COVID-19, workplace risk of transmission and severe illness, which may vary with the future course of COVID-19 activity in the community and within the workplace. Currently, at a minimum, all workplaces should have policies that promote and enable COVID-19 vaccination. In addition, those workplaces at higher risk should consider specific recommendations or additional requirements as outlined in my guidance.

The updated guidance also reflects current vaccination recommendations to receive a booster dose for those aged 12 years of age and older, given its importance in better preventing infection and severe disease against the Omicron variant. Employers are encouraged to review and revise their policies accordingly. I would like to sincerely thank you for your continued leadership in keeping your businesses, organizations, and our community safe.

Sincerely,



Dr. Piotr Oglaza, MD, CPHI (C), MPH, CCFP, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health / Chief Executive Officer

Encl. KFL&A Public Health Recommendations for Workplace COVID-19 Vaccination Policies