

MEDIA RELEASE

Province Eases Remaining COVID-19 Restrictions

Indoor capacity limits and proof of vaccination lifted in indoor public settings

For Immediate Release

March 1, 2022

In consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Ontario Government is lifting indoor capacity limits and proof of vaccination requirements in all indoor public spaces effective today, March 1, 2022, at 12:01 a.m. Details regarding these changes can be found in <u>O. Reg. 364/20: RULES FOR AREAS IN STEP 3 AND AT THE ROADMAP EXIT STEP.</u>

"After two very long years, the Province and Chief Medical Officers of Health have determined it safe to remove and ease the majority of public health restrictions," stated Lord Mayor Betty Disero. "I know that a great deal of sacrifice, determination, and cooperation has brought us to this place. On behalf of Town Council, thank you to Niagara-on-the-Lake residents and businesses for working together to themselves and others throughout this pandemic. The road has been long, but the end is finally near."

Effective today, the following measures are lifted at all indoor public settings, including the Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre, Meridian and Credit Union Arenas, and Town Administration Buildings:

- Capacity limits in all indoor public settings
- Proof of vaccination requirements (with businesses being allowed to implement requirements voluntarily)

Other protective measures, such as passive visitor screening and masking/face covering requirements, will remain in effect.

In addition, Niagara Region Public Health's Medical Officer of Health & Commissioner (Acting), Dr. Mustafa Hirji, <u>has rescinded the local section 22 orders and Letter of Instructions</u> for food premises, retail premises, as well as indoor sports and recreational fitness facilities.

"Town Staff is pleased to welcome more guests into our facilities," stated CAO Marnie Cluckie. "In order to support the continued ease of restrictions, we will remain vigilant in protecting the health and safety of facility users and Town Staff by following all Provincial regulations and Public Health recommendations. I am hopeful that this continual easing of restrictions will result in a more normal Spring and Summer for us all."

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