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## Town of Essex Parks and Facilities

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Thursday, September 16, 2021

RE: Arena Requirements and Vaccination Status

Dear User Group,

The Provincial Government, through Ontario Regulation 645/21, has implemented mandatory vaccination requirements. Below are the requirements for this process as of September 22, 2021. It is extremely important you provide this to all users and members involved with your groups/organizations. Please send this information to your users so all are aware of the Provincial requirements that are implemented at this facility.

- 1. Proof of Vaccination:** All people 12 years of age and above entering the facility must be fully vaccinated (plus 14 days). This requirement is not applicable to those under 17 years of age and below *if they are actively participating in the sport*, but this would be applicable to spectators 17 years of age and below. The Town of Essex will staff the doors of the facility to ensure people entering meet the requirements. The Ontario Regulation is also attached for details.
- 2. Governing Body Regulations:** Each group must follow the above regulations as set forth by the Provincial Government. These are the regulations that we, as the Town of Essex, must adhere to. In addition to these rules, if your governing body has policies and procedures relating to COVID-19 and/or COVID-19 Vaccinations, you must also follow them as well; however, the Town will not be verifying these requirements as that will be up to each organization. Please contact your governing body to find out their requirements as the Town of Essex cannot determine what regulations you must follow as each organization is different.
- 3. Doors to Facility:** The doors may be unlocked to the facility only 30 minutes in advance of ice times. Please do not arrive prior to your 30-minute window for ice time as entry may not be possible or permitted.
- 4. Mandatory Screening/Contact Tracing:** The user groups are still required to conduct the mandatory screening/contact tracing for each person entering the facility. Each group must have a representative screen all participants coming into the facility for their group—this



includes players, parents, coaches, fans, officials, etc. These documents must be saved for a minimum period of 30 days in case the Health Unit or the Town of Essex requires them. Specific documents will be sent to users who are using the community rooms/meeting rooms.

5. **Participant Load:** All facilities are to operate at 50% of the rated capacity, to a maximum of 1,000 people. All Town of Essex ice rinks have capacities of 1,000 people; however, dressing rooms will have posted limits on the rooms.
  
6. **Change Rooms:** *Do NOT arrive more than 30 minutes prior to your scheduled ice time. This is important for staff cleaning/sanitation.* It is also important for each group to leave promptly after each rental (no more than 20 minutes). Each group will be given two change rooms. Maximum capacities for each room are posted as the Provincial Government requires the 50% capacity threshold to be maintained. This is to be monitored by each user groups representative. It is requested that players and coaches come to the rink mostly dressed. Note: Masks are still required in the dressing rooms. Should you require additional chairs, please inform your rink attendant.
  
7. **Showers:** Showers are available at this time, and users must maintain social distancing as masks can be removed for the purpose of using the showers.

The municipal staff will have extensive cleaning of facilities conducted to make sure everyone is safe. We can only do so much as a municipal staff and need all of our users to be on board and do their part to ensure the facility is a safe place. Should we find groups are causing issues and not following the protocol, we will address these situations as required—this may include termination of allotted ice times.

Should you have any questions regarding this, I ask that you contact me to discuss.

Thank you for your interest in renting ice from the Town of Essex.



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# ONTARIO REGULATION 645/21

made under the

## REOPENING ONTARIO (A FLEXIBLE RESPONSE TO COVID-19) ACT, 2020

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### AMENDING O. REG. 364/20

#### (RULES FOR AREAS AT STEP 3 AND AT THE ROADMAP EXIT STEP)

**1. Schedule 1 to Ontario Regulation 364/20 is amended by adding the following section:**

##### **Proof of vaccination**

**2.1 (1) The person responsible for a business or an organization described in subsection (2) that is open shall require each patron who enters an area of the premises of the business or organization that is described in that subsection to provide, at the point of entry, proof of identification and of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19.**

**(2) Subsection (1) applies with respect to the following areas of the premises of the following businesses and organizations:**

1. The indoor areas of restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments where dance facilities are not provided, but not with respect to takeout and delivery service.
2. The indoor and outdoor areas of food or drink establishments where dance facilities are provided, including nightclubs, restoclubs and other similar establishments, but not with respect to takeout and delivery service.
3. The indoor areas of meeting and event spaces, including conference centres or convention centres, but not including places described in subsection 4 (2) of this Schedule.
4. **The indoor areas of facilities used for sports and recreational fitness activities, including waterparks and personal physical fitness trainers, including, for greater certainty, the indoor areas of facilities where spectators watch events, but not including places described in subsection 16 (4) of Schedule 2.**
5. The indoor areas of casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments.
6. The indoor areas of concert venues, theatres and cinemas.
7. The indoor areas of bathhouses, sex clubs and strip clubs.
8. The indoor areas of horse racing tracks, car racing tracks and other similar venues.
9. The indoor areas of places where commercial film and television production takes place, where there is a studio audience. For the purposes of this paragraph, a member of the studio audience is considered to be a patron of the production.

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply where a patron is entering an indoor area solely,

- (a) to use a washroom;
- (b) to access an outdoor area that can only be accessed through an indoor route;
- (c) to make a retail purchase;
- (d) while placing or picking up an order, including placing a bet or picking up winnings in the case of a horse racing track;
- (e) while paying for an order;
- (f) to purchase admission; or
- (g) as may be necessary for the purposes of health and safety.

(4) The person responsible for a business or an organization to which this section applies shall comply with guidance published by the Ministry of Health on its website specifying,

- (a) what constitutes proof of identification and of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19; and
- (b) the manner of confirming proof of vaccination.

(5) For the purpose of this section, a person is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 if,

- (a) they have received,
  - (i) the full series of a COVID-19 vaccine authorized by Health Canada, or any combination of such vaccines,
  - (ii) one or two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine not authorized by Health Canada, followed by one dose of a COVID-19 mRNA vaccine authorized by Health Canada, or
  - (iii) three doses of a COVID-19 vaccine not authorized by Health Canada; and
- (b) they received their final dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at least 14 days before providing the proof of being fully vaccinated.

(6) A business or an organization is exempt from the requirement under subsection (1) in respect of patrons,

- (a) who are under 12 years of age;
- (b) who are under 18 years of age, and who are entering the indoor premises of a facility used for sports and recreational fitness activities solely for the purpose of actively participating in an organized sport, in accordance with guidance published by the Ministry of Health on its website for the purposes of this provision;
- (c) who provide a written document, completed and supplied by a physician or registered nurse in the extended class, that sets out, in accordance with the Ministry's guidance mentioned in subsection (4),
  - (i) a documented medical reason for not being fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and

(ii) the effective time-period for the medical reason;

- (d) who are entering the indoor premises of a meeting or event space, including a conference centre or convention centre, solely for the purposes of attending a wedding service, rite or ceremony or a funeral service, rite or ceremony, but not an associated social gathering;
- (e) who are entering the indoor premises of a meeting or event space that is located in a place of worship or in a funeral establishment, cemetery, crematorium or similar establishment that provides funeral, cemetery or cremation services and that is operated by a person licensed under the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002*, for the purposes of attending a social gathering associated with a funeral service, rite or ceremony; or
- (f) who are entering the indoor premises of a meeting or event space other than a place described in clause (e), including a conference centre or convention centre, for the purposes of attending a social gathering associated with a wedding service, rite or ceremony or a social gathering associated with a funeral service, rite or ceremony, on or after September 22, 2021, but before October 13, 2021, as long as the patron produces the results of an antigen test administered within the previous 48 hours establishing that the person is negative for COVID-19 to the person responsible for the establishment.

(7) A person who is a patron shall not enter an area described in subsection (2) without providing the information required by subsection (1) except,

- (a) for a purpose specified in subsection (3); or
- (b) in the circumstances described in subsection (6).

(8) A person who provides any information to a business or an organization to satisfy a requirement under this section shall ensure that their information is complete and accurate.

(9) A business or an organization shall not retain any information provided pursuant to this section.

### **Commencement**

**2. This Regulation comes into force on the later of September 22, 2021 and the day it is filed.**