

13 September 2021

## **Proof of vaccination protocols for Sorrento Centre**

From September 13, 2021, to at least January 21, 2022 (and possibly longer), there is a British Columbia Public Health Order that requires vaccination checks for certain events and activities. As there is a lot of important detail, [please read through this note thoroughly](#). Let me know if you have any questions.

First, the **legal requirement**. Please note that the Sorrento Centre is legally required to follow the provincial health order or face legal penalties. The public health order is NOT requiring people to be vaccinated – that remains a personal choice. It is acknowledging that people who are not vaccinated account for 78.4% of all cases of COVID-19 in BC and that they account for 86.6% of all those hospitalized due to COVID. According to the latest provincial figures, people not vaccinated are 35 times more likely to be hospitalized than those fully vaccinated. So, the vaccination protocol is a necessary public health measure to protect our guests, staff, family and neighbours from a very highly infectious pandemic. People who choose not to be vaccinated carry a higher risk of contracting COVID and spreading it to others – hence the proof of vaccination required in certain settings.

Second, who and what is covered under the public health order. The order covers **all people** who are 12 years or older (born in 2009 or earlier) and includes:

- Indoor organized events with 50 or more people. For example: wedding and funeral receptions, organized parties, conferences, trade fairs and workshops
- Indoor organized recreational classes / activities with more than 50 people like pottery, art and choir
- Indoor concerts, theatre, dance and symphony events with more than 50 people
- Businesses offering indoor exercise/fitness

Please note that the order also covers other places with rules that don't apply to the Sorrento Centre (such as casinos, licensed restaurants and pubs).

The order **does not apply** to:

- Unlicensed restaurants that don't offer table service (such as our food services)
- Hotels, resorts, cabins and campsites (except for 50+ indoor events listed above)
- Indoor organized events with less than 50 people, except adult sports
- Worship services.

All the details are posted here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard.html>

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Third, the **process for administering proof of vaccination**. There is a simple two-step process for verifying vaccination status when it is required. Step one: prove that you are vaccinated. Step two: show official ID to prove your identity.

For BC residents: They will be expected to download their official vaccination record, including a QR code. Use the link above to obtain the code. There is a BC vaccination verifier available for smart phones (iOS and Android) that reads the code and confirms vaccination status. The verifier gives the name of the person whose vaccination status is confirmed. Then, ask for official ID (drivers' license, BC services card, passport) to prove identity.

For non-BC residents: Please ask for some form of proof of vaccination (either a vaccination card from another province or the international vaccination information that all travellers to Canada are required to provide when they enter the country) and confirm the person's identity.

Get more information on the BC vaccination verifier here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/proof/businesses>

I have already created my BC vaccination card with QR code and have downloaded the verifier on my iPhone. Everything seems to work well.

Please note that the new vaccination rules **do not replace** the requirements for masks, physical distancing, hand sanitizing and the restrictions on group sizes indoors and outdoors. These all remain in place until further notice.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

In gratitude,



Michael Shapcott, Executive Director