



ALBERTA

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Office of the Minister

October 13, 2021

Dear CSS Stakeholders:

Alberta's government is asking Community and Social Services service providers to consider implementing COVID-19 vaccination policies for their employees, if you have not already done so, to help keep clients, staff and all Albertans safe as we combat the fourth wave of the virus. Taking the steps necessary to have these measures in place as soon as possible will help all of us look out for our most vulnerable populations and help reduce the pressure on our province's health care system.

I know many service providers have already implemented COVID-19 vaccination policies, or are seeking legal and HR advice about how to adopt such an approach. We know that large providers and those serving seniors or the medically vulnerable have had these policies in place for weeks or longer. I want to thank all of you for investing the time and effort to take this important step to help us stop the spread of COVID-19. Thank you to the providers who have also implemented mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policies for new hires. Your efforts in this area are truly making a difference.

Many employers already ask employees to require proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test. On September 30, the Premier announced a new requirement for the Alberta Public Service to submit proof of vaccination or provide a negative PCR or rapid testing result at their own cost. The Premier also encouraged all public employers, and specifically school authorities, to introduce similar policies. Alberta Health Services has required all employees and contracted healthcare providers – including physicians and other frontline healthcare workers – to be fully immunized for COVID-19 by October 31, 2021.

COVID-19 vaccines have been determined to be the best way to stop the spread of the virus. During this critical time we must do all we can to reinforce that message and to encourage as many Albertans as possible to get vaccinated.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the government's request. Thank you to your organization and your front-line staff for all that you do in service to our most vulnerable citizens. I appreciate your staff members' selflessness to help those in need. Their tireless dedication has been noticed.

Sincerely,

Jason Luan

Jason Luan
Minister of Community and Social Services



Jason Copping
Minister of Health