

**Special Measures Order (Proof of Vaccination Status – Updated October 21, 2021)
(Religious and Faith Based Organizations Amendment)**

**Made pursuant to Section 28 of the
Public Health Protection and Promotion Act**

February 28, 2022

TO: All individuals, businesses and organizations operating in Newfoundland and Labrador

WHEREAS:

- A.** While a declaration of a public health emergency is in effect, the Chief Medical Officer of Health may do one or more of the special measures authorized under section 28 of the **Public Health Protection and Promotion Act** for the purpose of protecting the health of the population and preventing, remedying or mitigating the effects of the public health emergency;
- B.** On March 18, 2020, the Minister of Health and Community Services, on the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, declared:
 - (i) a public health emergency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - (ii) the public health emergency is in effect for the entire province of Newfoundland and Labrador; and
 - (iii) the public health emergency is in effect for a period of 14 days effective immediately;
- C.** The public health emergency has been extended for 14-day intervals and is currently still in effect.
- D.** The Chief Medical Officer of Health, pursuant to subsection 28(2) of the **Public Health Protection and Promotion Act**, may provide notice in any manner that can reasonably be expected to give actual notice;
- E.** The Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Rosann Seviour, pursuant to section 28 of the **Public Health Protection and Promotion Act**, made Special Measures Order (Proof of Vaccination Status - Updated October 21, 2021) effective October 22, 2021, as amended by Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Janice Fitzgerald in Special Measures Order (Deferral and Definitions Amendment) effective December 15, 2021;

- F. The Chief Medical Officer of Health believes that special measures continue to be necessary for the purpose of protecting the health of the population and preventing, remedying or mitigating the effects of the public health emergency; and
- G. The Chief Medical Officer of Health believes, in accordance with section 13 of the **Public Health Protection and Promotion Act**, that the restrictions set out in this Special Measures Order (Proof of Vaccination Status – Updated October 21, 2021) (Religious and Faith Based Organizations Amendment) are the least intrusive measures reasonably required in the circumstances to respond to the public health emergency,

Pursuant to section 28 of the **Public Health Protection and Promotion Act**, I, Dr. Janice Fitzgerald, Chief Medical Officer of Health HEREBY ORDER:

- 1. The Order No. 7 of the Special Measures Order (Proof of Vaccination Status – Updated October 21, 2021) is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

Operators or organizers of religious or faith-based services and activities who do not verify proof of vaccination for persons entering their premises or participating in their services or activities must ensure that occupancy is limited to not more than 50 per cent of the venue's capacity.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:

- 1. This Special Measures Order (Proof of Vaccination Status – Updated October 21, 2021) (Religious and Faith Based Organizations Amendment) is effective as of 12:01 a.m. NST on February 28, 2022.
- 2. All other Orders contained in the Special Measures Order (Proof of Vaccination Status – Updated October 21, 2021), as amended, remain in full force and effect.
- 3. All other Special Measures Orders remain in full force and effect.

TAKE NOTICE THAT:

- 1. Failure to comply with this order may result in an application to the Supreme Court, in accordance with section 42 of the **Public Health Protection and Promotion Act** to enforce the relevant provisions of this Order.
- 2. A person who is subject to an order made by the Chief Medical Officer of Health may request that the Chief Medical Officer of Health reconsider the order by filing a written request for reconsideration within 7 days after the day on which the order is served on a person. A written request for review or reconsideration of this order shall include:
 - (i) the reasons for the request;

- (ii) a summary of the facts relevant to the request;
- (iii) whether the order should be revoked or how it should be varied; and
- (iv) the contact information of the person making the request and shall be sent to the following address:
The Chief Medical Officer of Health
Department of Health and Community Services
PO Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

3. The Chief Medical Officer of Health shall review this Order no less than once every 5 days while the Order is in effect.

4. This Order remains in effect during any review or reconsideration.

5. Failure to comply with this Order is an offence for which you may be liable on summary conviction in accordance with section 56 of the **Public Health Protection and Promotion Act**.

6. For greater certainty, compliance with this Order is required in addition to and not in substitution for any requirement imposed by or under any applicable law.

Signed at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, this 25th day of February 2022.



Dr. Janice Fitzgerald
Chief Medical Officer of Health