

March 1, 2022

To owners, operators, and persons responsible for any indoor areas of facilities used for organized sports and recreational fitness activities in the municipalities of the County of Simcoe, the District of Muskoka, and the Cities of Orillia and Barrie:

**Re: Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Instructions issued pursuant to ss. 2(2.1), Sch. 1 of O. Reg. 364/20 under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020, directed to owners, operators, and persons responsible for any indoor areas of facilities used for organized sports and recreational fitness activities in the municipalities of the County of Simcoe, the District of Muskoka, and the Cities of Orillia and Barrie**

A Letter of Instruction was initially issued on November 23, 2021, pursuant to subsection 2(2.1) of Schedule 1 to Ontario Regulation 364/20 under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020. The Letter of Instruction is hereby rescinded on the basis that provincial direction for COVID-19 proof of vaccination is no longer required in sports and recreational settings. It should be noted however that nothing in this letter prohibits facility operators who wish to institute their own proof of vaccination programs and procedures for your patrons within said facilities from doing so. Should your business or organization choose to continue to use proof of vaccination requirements within your facility moving forward, SMDHU would encourage you to consult with legal representation.

It should also be noted nothing within this letter or the cited provincial regulation precludes the continuation of agency workplace vaccination policies. In the past I have advised on the creation of such policies, and I will be providing updated recommendations related to this in the near future.

Thank you for your on-going efforts in the County of Simcoe, The District of Muskoka and in the Cities of Orillia and Barrie.

Sincerely,

**ORIGINAL Signed By:**

Charles Gardner, MD, CCFP, MHSc, FRCPC  
Medical Officer of Health

CG:SR:sh

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