



STAFF REPORT

Title: Facility COVID-19 Restriction Exemption Program

Meeting Date: November 23, 2021

Executive Summary:

On September 15 2021, the Government of Alberta and the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) announced new temporary health actions to reduce the impact of COVID-19 on the health care system. The announcement, CMOH advised, beginning September 20th, in-scope businesses, entities and events must follow one of these two options:

1. Implement the Restrictions Exemption Program (REP) requiring proof of vaccination or negative test result, plus mandatory masking as outlined in CMOH 45-2021, or
2. Comply with all public health restrictions as outlined in CMOH 44-2021; mandatory masking, maintain a physical distance of two metres, and 1/3 reduced fire code capacity.

Throughout the pandemic the City has observed CMOH orders (stayed in our lane) while keeping an ear open to the community for opportunities to balance health restrictions set by the CMOH, with commerce, programs, and services operating within controlled spaces at City facilities.

The background and attachments in this report provides a summary of the ongoing actions of Administration respecting COVID-19 orders within the higher profile facilities. Based on Council's review of the restrictions and concerns being raised by the community, Council may provide direction to increase the COVID-19 restrictions at the various facilities including the application of the Restrictions Exemption Program through all applicable facilities (as mandatory).

Further, it is understood the some business have chosen to implement the Province of Alberta's Restrictions Exemption Program (REP). It should be noted that the issue continues to be divisive in the community with polarizing views. Administration has received several concerns on both sides of the perspective and would like to acknowledge that the discussion is a very emotional subject.



Recently in response to the COVID-19 environment in Calgary, the City of Calgary ratified a municipal COVID-19 Vaccine Passport Bylaw applying to all “in-scope” businesses and municipal facilities. Like the provincial program, Calgary’s bylaw applies to non-essential businesses like restaurants, movie theatres, museums, and recreation centres. Their bylaw does not extend to health and wellness services, retail and shopping malls, libraries, schools or places of worship.

The following is a link to the news article relating to the recent decision of the Calgary City Council:

<https://globalnews.ca/news/8212300/calgary-city-council-covid-19-vaccine-verification-bylaw/>

A copy of the City of Calgary’s bylaw ‘Vaccine Passport Bylaw 65M2021’ requiring many businesses and organizations to require proof of vaccination, recent negative COVID-19 test, or valid medical exemption letter to gain entry has been attached for reference purposes. The reader may also view the bylaw through the following link.

<https://www.calgary.ca/csps/cema/covid19/safety/COVID-19-vaccine-bylaw.html>

Background:

With respect to services at the Energy Centre and the Restriction Exemption Program, Council resolved at their regular meeting held September 28, 2021:

Resolution # CRM20210928.1011

Moved by Councillor Lefebvre

That Council support the existing measures being implemented by Administration in order to comply with the Province of Alberta’s - Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) Order No. 42-2021 and Order No. 43-2021 respecting COVID-19 at municipally owned facilities, with the exception of the Restriction Exemption Program (REP) being implemented for the Cenovus Wellness Centre, and memberships of those not wanting to follow the Restriction Exemption Program (REP) be frozen until COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted (with a sunset clause to revisit within sixty (60) days which would be the November 23, 2021 regular meeting of Council).

Carried Unanimously

The following provides a summary of the COVID-19 restrictions within the higher-profile city facilities, and is considered by Administration to be the minimum requirement to comply with the CMOH Orders.



Of note, where the REP is observed within City of Cold Lake facilities, the City is not taking or retaining any medical information including names or vaccination status. Additionally, outdoor activities continue with no health restrictions.

CITY HALL

Council Chambers

- The primary location of public gathering in City Hall is the Council Chambers (as a meeting space with the framework of the Order 44-2021 and Order 45-2021). Administration has implemented mandatory masking, maintaining a physical distance of two (2) metres, and 1/3 reduced fire code capacity in keeping with Order 44-2021.

COLD LAKE ENERGY CENTRE

In accordance to the CMOH orders, the following amenities at the Energy Centre are on

Hallways, and Concourses:

- Concourses will operate at 1/3 reduced fire code capacity with mandatory masking and two-metre physical distancing.

Cenovus Wellness Centre:

- The Cenovus Wellness Centre continues to operate under the Restrictions Exemption Program.
- Masks are not required to be worn when participating in physical activity but should be worn at all other times.
- Adult fitness classes continue to operate under the Restrictions Exemption Program.

Imperial Oil Place (Youth Sport, Fitness and Performance activities):

- Indoor group classes, training, and competitions are permitted, but participants are required to:
 - ✓ screen for symptoms.
 - ✓ maintain two-metre physical distancing, except youth while engaged in physical activity.
 - ✓ wear a mask, except youth while engaged in physical activity.
- Spectator attendance is restricted to 1/3 reduced fire code capacity, attendees



are limited to a single household or two (2) close contacts if living alone and must be masked and maintain two-metres physical distancing.

Imperial Oil Place (Non-Youth Sport, Fitness and Performance activities):

- Indoor Non-Youth sport, fitness and performance activities continues to operate under the Restrictions Exemption Program including its spectators.

2nd Arena (Youth Sport, Fitness and Performance activities):

- Indoor group classes, training, and competitions are permitted, but participants are required to:
 - ✓ screen for symptoms.
 - ✓ maintain two-metres distancing, except youth while engaged in physical activity.
 - ✓ wear a mask, except youth while engaged in physical activity.
- Spectator attendance is restricted to 1/3 reduced fire code capacity, attendees are limited to a single household or two (2) close contacts if living alone and must be masked and maintain two-metres physical distancing.

2nd Arena (Non-Youth Sport, Fitness and Performance activities):

- Indoor Non-Youth sport, fitness and performance activities continues to operate under the Restrictions Exemption Program including its spectators.

Reid Field House (Youth Sport, Fitness and Performance activities):

- Indoor group classes, training, and competitions are permitted, but participants are required to:
 - ✓ screen for symptoms.
 - ✓ maintain two-metres distancing, except youth while engaged in physical activity.
 - ✓ wear a mask, except youth while engaged in physical activity.
- Spectator attendance is restricted to 1/3 reduced fire code capacity, attendees are limited to a single household or two (2) close contacts if living alone and must be masked and maintain two-metres physical distancing.

Reid Field House (Non-Youth Sport, Fitness and Performance activities)

- Indoor Non-Youth sport, fitness and performance activities continues to operate under the Restrictions Exemption Program including its spectators.



Rock Climbing Wall (Non-Youth Sport, Fitness and Performance activities)

- **Develop two (2) separate time slots / dates:**
 - Youth (Under 18) - Indoor Masking Program (Order 44-2021) - limit to 1/3 capacity.
 - Adult (18+) - Indoor Masking Program (Order 44-2021) - limit to 1/3 capacity.
- Set capacity at 9 people (climbers) not including supervisors.

CNRL Walking Track

- The CNRL Walking Track will continue to operate at 1/3 capacity.

Larger Events

- The City of Cold Lake has cancelled its Bounce House and Nerf War Days till further notice.
- Christmas Parade (outdoor event) scheduled for November 26th.
- After events i.e. Christmas Parade is cancelled till further notice.
- Kid Zone (Tuesday morning) continues to operate at 1/3 capacity.
- Farmer's Markets in keeping with Hallways and Concourse provisions, 1/3 capacity.

NORTH ARENA

North Arena (Youth Sport, Fitness and Performance activities):

- Indoor group classes, training, and competitions are permitted, but participants are required to:
 - ✓ screen for symptoms.
 - ✓ maintain two-metres distancing, except youth while engaged in physical activity.
 - ✓ wear a mask, except youth while engaged in physical activity.
- Spectator attendance is restricted to 1/3 reduced fire code capacity, attendees are limited to a single household or two (2) close contacts if living alone and must be masked and maintain two-metres physical distancing.

North Arena (Non-Youth Sport, Fitness and Performance activities):

- Indoor Non-Youth sport, fitness and performance activities continue to operate under the Restrictions Exemption Program including its spectators.



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICE CENTRE

FCSS – Classrooms

- Youth (Under 18) Programs - Indoor Masking Program (Order 44-2021) - limit to 1/3 capacity (~12 person maximum capacity).
- Adult (18+) Programs - Indoor Masking Program (Order 44-2021) - limit to 1/3 capacity (~12 person maximum capacity).

FCSS - Loft Youth Centre

- Youth (Under 18) Programs - Indoor Masking Program (Order 44-2021) - limit to 1/3 capacity (~6 person maximum capacity).

FCSS - Family Connections Centre

- Parents and/ or guardians Programs - Indoor Masking Program (Order 44-2021) - limit to 1/3 capacity (~12 person maximum capacity):
 - All persons age two (2) and older are required to wear a mask.
 - Parents can attend programs meant primarily for infants/children/youth to pick up or provide supervision as in Family Connections.
 - Parents must remain two-metres apart unless they are part of a cohort.

Special Transportation Services

- Essential Service - Masking Program - limit to 1/3 capacity (~4 person maximum capacity).

Kitchen – Cooking Classes and Programing:

- Youth (Under 18) Programs - Indoor Masking Program (Order 44-2021) - limit to 1/3 capacity (~4 person maximum capacity).
- Adult (18+) Programs - Indoor Masking Program (Order 44-2021) - limit to 1/3 capacity (~4 person maximum capacity).

Counselling Services Meeting Rooms

- Essential Service Youth (Under 18) - Indoor Masking Program (Order 44-2021)
- Essential Service Adult (18+) - Indoor Masking Program (Order 44-2021)

Grief and Loss Support Group

- Youth (Under 18) Programs - Indoor Masking Program (Order 44-2021) - limit to 1/3 capacity (~6 person maximum capacity).
- Adult (18+) Programs - Indoor Masking Program (Order 44-2021) - limit to 1/3 capacity (~6 person maximum capacity).

Large Upcoming Events:

1. National Family Week – Cancelled
2. Cold Lake Interagency – Virtual Meeting and Presentations



The Restrictions Exemption Program does not exempt programs, services, and/or facilities from masking requirements (except those exemptions in the orders).

The following has been attached as appendices to this report:

1. CMOH Order 45-2021
2. CMOH Order 44-2021
3. COVID-19 public health actions - sports, fitness and performance activities
4. Staff Report Date September 28, 2021

Alternatives:

Council may consider the following options:

- Council may pass a motion supporting the existing measures being implemented by Administration in keeping with the Province of Alberta's - Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) Order No. 44-2021 and No. 45-2021.
- Council may pass a motion directing Administration to implement the Province of Alberta's – Restriction Exemption Program for all facilities accessed by the public in accordance to Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) Order No. 45-2021.
- Council may pass a motion directing Administration to implement the Province of Alberta's – Restriction Exemption Program for "specified" programs, facilities, and/or services as deemed necessary by City Council.
- Council may pass a motion directing Administration to prepare a COVID-19 Passport Bylaw for Council's consideration.

Recommended Action:

That Council pass a motion supporting the existing measures being implemented by Administration in keeping with the Province of Alberta's - Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) Order No. 44-2021 and Order No. 45-2021.

Budget Implications (Yes or No):

Pending expectations on restrictions, level of monitoring and enforcement.

Submitted by:

Kevin Nagoya, Chief Administrative Officer