

VACCINES IN THE WORKPLACE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW THIS WEEK



With BC exceeding its vaccination targets, regulations lifting and the reintegration of employees to the workplace on the horizon, employers are now faced with trying to navigate the changing dynamic of vaccines and the workplace. We anticipate that changes to legislation could happen on short notice and have created this Round-Up to help employers stay informed in a situation that is so rapidly evolving.

Here are a few important things I thought worth sharing this week:

IN THE NEWS

National

1. Job postings requiring COVID-19 vaccinations skyrocket. [The Globe and Mail – September 29, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).
2. RCMP union supports the “right” of RCMP officers to refuse to get vaccinated and will back up any member who refuses vaccination once the mandatory vaccination policy for the federal public service is in place. [CBC – September 29, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).

British Columbia

3. BC Nurse’s Union, with 48,000 members, facing leadership crisis since coming out against the mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations in the health care sector. [The Vancouver Sun – September 24, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).

Alberta

4. The Calgary Airport Authority announced Wednesday that the organization will be implementing a mandatory vaccination policy for all 250 of its employees to be implemented by mid-November. [CTV News – September 29, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).
5. Alberta rolls out new temporary restrictions, health measures and proof of vaccination cards. [Toronto Star – September 22, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).

Saskatchewan

6. Employers in Saskatchewan outside the public service can ask employees if they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 when new regulations come into force on October 1. [Global News – September 28, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).

Manitoba

7. The Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1505, which represents Winnipeg Transit staff, is expressing concern about the city’s mandatory vaccination policy. [The Winnipeg Sun – September 28, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).

Ontario

8. The internal fight over TTC’s vaccine mandate escalated Tuesday when the transit agency called union directive on vaccine policy illegal job action. [CTV News – September 28, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).
9. CUPE Ontario union called Thursday for the government to put classroom capacity limits and distancing requirements in place to better protect students and staff from COVID-19. [City News – September 23, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).
10. Three of Ottawa’s four school boards are moving ahead with plans to mandate shots for teachers, staff, in the hope vaccinated adults will help protect unvaccinated students. [Healthing – September 22, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).
11. The Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) advises COVID-19 vaccine mandates are “generally permissible” as long as those with legitimate exemptions are able to be “reasonably accommodated”. [Global News – September 22, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).
12. Ontario government launches “Workplace Safety Plan Builder” to “help businesses stay on top of health and safety guidance”, as well as extra labour inspectors to ensure COVID-19 safety requirements are being adhered to. [The Lawyers Daily – September 27, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).

Nova Scotia

13. Nova Scotia gym owners request clarity around vaccine policy questions. [Global News – September 21, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).

IN THE COURTS

14. Is it contrary to the public interest for Courts to hide their COVID-19 vaccination policies? [The Lawyers Daily – September 24, 2021](#) – read the article [here](#).

I hope you found this Round-Up helpful. If you have any questions relating to the reopening of your business or reintegration of your staff – our Workplace Law group is here to assist.

If you are seeing this Round-Up for the first time, you can read previous issues [here](#).



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