



Vaccine card

FAQs

September 17, 2021

What is the BC Vaccine Card?

- The BC Vaccine Card will allow people to securely show their proof of vaccination using a digital or paper version to access certain events, services and businesses.
- By order of the provincial health officer, starting September 13 proof of vaccination will be required to access some events, services and businesses. The easiest way to show proof is using the BC Vaccine Card (with a government issued photo ID).
- The provincial government introduced the BC Vaccine Card to boost vaccinations and promote a feeling of confidence and safety when participating in indoor activities.

How can I get my BC Vaccine Card?

- Visit gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard.
- Login using your date of birth, personal health number, and date you got dose 1 or 2.
- Once your unique QR code has been created, you can save a digital version to your device or print a paper copy.

Which Saanich facilities/activities will require proof of vaccination?

- By order of the provincial health officer, all four Saanich recreation centres will require proof of vaccination (with a government issued photo ID) to enter the facility.

Required:

- All weight room visits (13+yrs)
- All indoor adult fitness activities regardless of intensity (22+yrs)
- All indoor adult sport activities including but not limited to racquets, hockey, basketball and pickle ball (22+yrs)
- Spectators of indoor sports over 50 person capacity
- All events over 50 people (presentations, meetings, etc.)

Not Required:

- Swimming pool activities, excepting adult sport (water polo, Masters swimming)
- Child and youth (21 and under) sports and activities; includes coaches, volunteers and parents accompanying and supporting a child's participation
- Public skating and children's skate lessons; includes parents accompanying children at a public skate or to skate lessons
- Outdoor sports of activities
- Parental drop off or pick up from youth activities
- General facility access/use such as washrooms, change rooms and showers
- Golf and pro shop access
- Adult general activities under 50 persons (i.e. pottery, art, general interest etc.)



When does proof of vaccination at Saanich recreation centres begin?

- Starting September 13, 2021, customers will be required to provide proof of partial vaccination – at least one dose (with a government issued photo ID).
- Starting October 24, 2021, customers will be required to provide proof of full vaccination - two doses of COVID-19 vaccine (with a government issued photo ID).
- Between September 13, 2021, and October 24, 2021, partially and fully vaccinated people will be able to enter with a BC Vaccine Card (with a government issued photo ID).
- Up to and including September 26, Saanich will accept other forms of proof of vaccination as listed by the province during the vaccine card transition period, including COVID-19 Immunization Records.
- The vaccine card requirement is in place until January 31, 2022 and could be extended.

Why do I have to provide proof of vaccination to visit Saanich's recreation centres?

- The Provincial Health Officer's Order requires proof of vaccination (with a government issued photo ID) to attend a fitness centre or studio, gym; indoor adult group and team sports; indoor group exercise activities; and indoor organized events with 50 people or more. Saanich must comply with all orders and guidelines as directed by the provincial health officer as we have done throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

How will Saanich recreation centres verify a BC Vaccine Card?

- Staff will visually verify the proof of vaccination along with government issued photo ID of the person if they're 19 or older. As per the provincial health officer, people aged 12 to 18 do not have to provide photo ID with their vaccine card.
- Saanich will accept other forms of proof of vaccination as listed by the province during the vaccine card transition period (up to and including September 26, 2021).
- As of September 27, the BC Vaccine Card will be the only accepted form of proof for BC residents.
- Every time a customer comes in, proof of vaccination must be confirmed (with a government issued photo ID) – at this time we will not store information for frequent participants.

Are there any exemptions to providing a BC Vaccine Card?

- According to the provincial health officer there are no exemptions.

How can people visiting from out of province provide proof of vaccination?

- As per the provincial health officer, people who are from out of province visiting Saanich recreation centres are also required to provide proof of vaccination.
- Please refer to the [province's website](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard) for acceptable vaccination records if you're visiting from outside of BC: [gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard)

Will Saanich collect any of my personal information?

- No health information will be collected by Saanich through the verification or proof of vaccination process.



Is vaccination mandatory for Saanich staff?

- Saanich shared an abundance of information and resources with staff and strongly encourage all staff to receive two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- In BC, proof of vaccination is not mandatory for employment other than in specific areas of the health care system.

How can you guarantee it's safe to interact with Saanich staff if vaccinations are not mandatory for them?

- Throughout the pandemic, we implemented strong health and safety protocols, as guided by the provincial health officer, WorkSafeBC and other industry organizations, which remain in place to ensure the health and safety of our staff and the public.
- As staff, we are required to follow Saanich's communicable disease prevention plan which outlines our preventative measures and safety protocols.

Can I attend other Saanich facilities or meetings without providing proof of vaccination?

- Proof of vaccination is not required to attend council or committee of the whole meetings or public hearings at Saanich Municipal Hall as these are part of formal local government business. This applies to both council members and the public attending these events.
- At this time, Council and committee of the whole meetings and public hearings are only available via webcast.

Do I still have to wear a mask at Saanich facilities?

- Masks are still required in all indoor public spaces for people aged 12 and over unless you are engaged in physical activity. This requirement will remain in place until the order is lifted or revised by the provincial health officer.

Who can I speak to about proof of vaccination requirements?

- I encourage you to contact Island Health's Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. Richard Stanwick at publichealth@viha.ca to discuss proof of vaccination requirements.
- Additionally, non-medical information about COVID-19 is available 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week at 1-888-COVID19 (1-888-268-4319).
- All provincial health officer orders and guidance is available at gov.bc.ca/covid-19