



**PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER
RESCINDING PROOF OF COVID-19 VACCINATION OR NEGATIVE TEST ORDER**

February 13, 2022

(Under Subsection 25.2(2) of *The Disease Control Regulations*)

WHEREAS:

- A. I, Dr. Saqib Shahab, an official with the Ministry of Health and the Chief Medical Health Officer for the Province of Saskatchewan, have been authorized by the Minister of Health to make this Order under subsection 25.2(2) of *The Disease Control Regulations*;
- B. The transmission of the infectious agent SARS-CoV-2, which has caused cases and outbreaks of a serious communicable disease known as COVID-19 among the population of the Province of Saskatchewan, is a serious public health threat, as defined in *The Public Health Act, 1994*;
- C. COVID-19 is a category I communicable disease;
- D. Vaccines approved for use in Canada have proven to be safe and effective at reducing the transmission of COVID-19 and highly effective at reducing negative health outcomes in vaccinated persons who do contract COVID-19;
- E. Over 75% of people in Saskatchewan are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccination against COVID-19 is available to all persons over the age of five, and “booster” doses are available to all Saskatchewanians over the age of 12;
- F. Multiple SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern have emerged worldwide and are now present in Canada and Saskatchewan. The “Omicron” variant of concern is presently the dominant variant in Saskatchewan and Canada. The Omicron variant of concern is substantially more transmissible than previous variants. However, it is less likely to cause serious negative health outcomes, such as hospitalization or death, especially in persons with up-to-date vaccinations;
- G. A full primary series of vaccinations against COVID-19 or previous infection with COVID-19 provides less protection against transmission of the Omicron variant than it provided against previously dominant variants. However, a full primary series of vaccinations is highly protective against serious negative health outcomes;
- H. Self-administered rapid antigen testing is now widely and freely available across Saskatchewan;

- I. The existing public health order respecting proof of vaccination or negative testing is having a diminishing impact on controlling SARS-CoV-2 transmission, specifically of the Omicron variant;
- J. Based on the foregoing considerations, I have determined that the public health order respecting proof of vaccination or negative testing is no longer necessary to prevent, reduce or control the transmission of SARS-CoV-2, and it is no longer in the public interest to continue that order;
- K. Accordingly, pursuant to section 25.2(2) of *The Disease Control Regulations*, effective February 14, 2022 at 12:01am, I ORDER and DIRECT:

SECTION 1: RESCISSION

- (a) The Public Health Order entitled *Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination or Negative Test* and dated February 1, 2022 (as amended February 4, 2022) is hereby rescinded.
- (b) For greater certainty, this order does not rescind the Public Health Order entitled *Mandatory Isolation and Face Covering*, also dated February 1, 2022.

DATED at Regina, Saskatchewan, on the 13th day of February, 2022.



Dr. Saqib Shahab FRCPC
Government of Saskatchewan
Chief Medical Health Officer

February 13, 2022