## MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE

Sustaining our inherent rights, facing challenges together to build a strong and healthy future.



## **COMMUNITY NOTICE**

For Immediate Release: Enniskó:wa/March 24, 2022

## ONTARIO LIFTS MASK MANDATES IN MOST PUBLIC SPACES, SCHOOLS MCA, AMBE CONTINUE MASK MANDATE

The Ontario government has lifted the mask mandate for schools, retail settings, and most other indoor public spaces, as of March 21st. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) will be extending their mask mandate for MCA buildings, facilities, and healthcare settings until April 4th, after which MCA will reassess the mask mandate. The mask mandate will not apply to businesses or organizations outside of MCA.

Settings such as long-term care homes, healthcare facilities, and public transportation systems will keep mask mandates in place until the end of April. All remaining public health rules are expected to come to an end at the end of April as public health indicators have improved enough throughout Ontario to remove masks and other rules associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

AMBE schools will continue masking and will reassess the mask mandate in the beginning of April. AMBE is going to utilize a slow process in removing the mask mandate within the schools; if COVID-19 case numbers continue to be low, masks will be worn when students are on the bus and in common areas. Students will be able to remove their masks when seated at their desks.

The protection of MCA staff, AMBE students, and community members, particularly our vulnerable populations, are our utmost priority. MCA and AMBE will provide the community with notice when its mask mandates will be ending.

To view Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health's statement on the ending of the mask mandate in Ontario, please visit the Eastern Ontario Health Unit's website at <a href="https://www.eohu.ca">www.eohu.ca</a>.