



COMMUNITY NOTICE

For Immediate Release:

Ohiarihkó:wa/July 6, 2022

MCA AMENDS COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is notifying the community that effective July 4, 2022, the mask mandate for MCA offices has been suspended. It is recommended individuals use their judgment, knowledge, and acceptable level of risk when deciding about mask-wearing. MCA's New Hire Policy will also be lifted; this policy limited hiring to COVID-19 vaccinated individuals. Moving forward, new applicants for open MCA positions will no longer be required to have two doses of approved COVID-19 vaccines to be deemed eligible for hire when applying.

Masks will continue to be required in all healthcare settings when in direct physical contact with a healthcare provider or in close proximity to direct client care services, such as:

- *Iakhihsoththa Lodge*
- *Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long-Term Care Facility*
- *Kawehno:ke Medical Clinic*
- *Akwesasne Medical Clinic*
- *Mobile Clinics*
- *Home Care/Home Support*
- *Non-Insured Transport Service*
- *Optometry*
- *Dental Clinic*
- *Immunization Clinic with the Community Health Program*
- *Diabetes Services Appointments*
- *Any space utilized for a COVID-19 vaccination site*

Community members entering the Kanonhkwa'tsheri:io Health Facility will continue to check in with the receptionist upon entering the facility, where you will be advised of a mask requirement for that particular destination.

The Department of Health's Long-Term Care COVID-19 policies remain in effect with daily testing for all staff and visitors for the Iakhihsoththa Lodge and Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long-Term Care Facility.

If you are at high risk for severe illness or recovering from COVID-19 infection, we encourage you to please continue to wear a mask. If you have symptoms of the virus or are in close contact with someone with COVID-19, we ask you to follow public health guidelines and stay home. Please continue to follow public health measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection, such as staying home when sick, frequent hand washing, and maintaining physical distance when possible to help prevent the spread of illnesses.

If you have any questions regarding masking requirements for MCA, please contact the Community Health Program at 613-575-2341 ext. 3220.