

**Town of Fort Frances
Administrative Report**

TO: Committee of the Whole
FROM: Alyssha Hansma, Human Resources Manager
SUBJECT: **COVID-19 Vaccination Policy**
DATE: March 28, 2022

Issue:

If the Town should continue to administer the COVID-19 Vaccination Policy (#5.43)

Options/Alternatives:

1. Council approve the rescindment of the Town's COVID-19 Vaccination Policy (#5.43)
2. Deny the request.

Administrative Recommendation:

RECOMMENDED THAT Council of the Town of Fort Frances approve the rescindment of the Town's COVID-19 Vaccination Policy (#5.43).

History:

On August 17, 2021, the Province of Ontario announced that vaccination policies were mandatory for high-risk settings (i.e. hospitals and home and community care service providers; post-secondary institutions; licensed retirement homes; women's shelters; and congregate group homes and day programs for adults with developmental disabilities, children's treatment centres and other services for children with special needs, and licensed children's residential settings). The requirement for mandatory vaccination policies in those settings was lifted effective March 14, 2022.

Implementation of a vaccination policy for the Town of Fort Frances, was not mandated, but was implemented November 8, 2021 as the Town is committed to providing a safe working environment for its Staff, its customers, and members of the public. While the Town of Fort Frances was not required to have a vaccination policy, implementation of such a policy was recommended by Ontario and the Northwestern Health Unit.

Effective March 1, 2022, Ontario no longer required businesses and organizations to check for proof of vaccination, and the Town announced on February 28, 2022 that proof of vaccination would no longer be required to enter a town facility.

Analysis:

Based on the fact that Town of Fort Frances is not required to administer a vaccination policy, that Ontario continues to move forward with its reopening plan, and that the Town of Fort Frances no longer requires proof of vaccination to enter a town facility, administration recommends the rescindment of the Town's COVID-19 Vaccination Policy (#5.43).

Consultation:

- CUPE, Local 65
- Fort Frances Professional Fire Fighters Association
- Senior Management

Respectfully Submitted,



Alysha Hansma
Human Resources Manager