

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing**

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**Ministère des  
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234-2022-61

Dear Head of Council:

The supply of housing in Ontario has not kept up with demand over the past decade and everyone has a role to play in fixing Ontario's housing crisis. More than ever, we need municipalities, non-profits and private industry to work with us to encourage the building of different kinds of housing – so that Ontario families have more affordable options.

To help support this important priority, I am pleased to provide you with an update on recent changes our government has made to help streamline and simplify Ontario's planning system.

**Bill 13, the *Supporting People and Businesses Act, 2021***

Schedule 19 of Bill 13, the *Supporting People and Businesses Act, 2021* came into force December 2, 2021 upon royal assent.

Changes have been made to help streamline the planning system and, in some cases, help shorten approval timelines by providing municipal councils broader authority to allow more planning decisions to be made by committees of council or staff. Municipalities can now, subject to having appropriate official plan policies, delegate decisions dealing with minor amendments to zoning by-laws, such as temporary use by-laws and the lifting of holding symbols, should they choose to.

You can find more information about these changes on the Environmental Registry of Ontario ([019-4419](https://www.ero.on.ca/)) and the Regulatory Registry ([21-MMAH025](https://www.ero.on.ca/)) and some frequently asked questions are provided below.

At this time, I encourage you to review and update your existing delegation policies and consider exercising this new authority to help streamline your decision-making processes, and free up council's valuable time to focus on other more strategic matters.

**Bill 276, the *Supporting Recovery and Competitiveness Act, 2021***

As you know, we also recently made *Planning Act* changes related to control of the division of land, including subdivision control, plans of subdivision, consents and validations through Bill 276, the *Supporting Recovery and Competitiveness Act, 2021*, which received Royal Assent on June 3, 2021. I am writing to confirm that Schedule 24 of Bill 276 and associated regulations came into force on January 1, 2022.

We are proud to make these changes, which will help save time and money for those involved in the land division approval process, including municipalities, landowners, purchasers and some lease holders. Our changes will continue to protect Ontarians when they buy and sell property, while making the rules of subdivision control clearer and simpler.

Your municipality may wish to consider whether adjustments to your land division application and review processes to align with the changes would be beneficial.

More information about these changes and the feedback we received during our consultation can be found on the Environmental Registry of Ontario ([019-3495 and 019-3958](#)) and Regulatory Registry ([Proposal 21-MMAH008 and Proposal 21-MMAH015](#)). Some frequently asked questions are provided below. Any further questions about the changes to the *Planning Act* and related regulations can be directed to [ProvincialPlanning@ontario.ca](mailto:ProvincialPlanning@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,



Steve Clark  
Minister

c: Chief Administrative Officer

# FAQs

## Schedule 19 (Planning Act) to Bill 13, the Supporting People and Businesses Act, 2021

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### What changes have been made to the Planning Act?

- Changes to the Planning Act, Municipal Act, 2001 and City of Toronto Act, 2006 provide municipalities with discretionary authority to delegate additional decisions to committees of council or municipal staff for minor amendments to zoning by-laws like:
  - Temporary use by-laws
  - Lifting of holding provisions
- Before matters may be delegated, official plan policies will need to be developed to establish the type of minor zoning by-law amendments that may be delegated, such as authorization of temporary uses, the lifting of a holding symbol, and other minor zoning by-law amendments.

### What types of “minor” amendments to a zoning by-law may be delegated?

- If a municipality would like to use this authority, official plan policies will need to be established to scope and define the types of “minor” zoning amendments that may be delegated. This could include matters like temporary use by-laws and by-laws lifting holding provisions.
- This approach is intended to allow for a locally tailored approach that reflects input from the public.

### What types of conditions could council apply when delegating its authority?

- Council will have the ability to apply conditions on the delegation of its decision(s). These conditions would be determined locally when the official plan policies and implementing by-law for the delegation are being developed.

### Will this new delegation authority alter the public meeting or appeal rights of the matters delegated?

- The delegation of additional planning matters would not alter any notice or public meeting requirements or limit appeal rights.

### What other planning decisions can be delegated?

- Under the Planning Act, municipal council can delegate the following decisions to a committee of council, staff, or, in some cases, a committee of adjustment:
  - Community planning permit system permits
  - Approval of adopted lower-tier official plan amendments
  - Plans of subdivision and condominiums
  - Consents
  - Site plan
  - Validations
- Other planning matters, such as administrative functions related to by-laws, may be delegated by council based on the delegation provisions in the Municipal Act, 2001 (or City of Toronto Act, 2006).

# **Schedule 24 (Planning Act) to Bill 276, the Supporting Recovery and Competitiveness Act, 2021**

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## **What changes will be made to the Planning Act?**

- The changes include technical, administrative and policy changes to provisions in sections 50, 51, 53, 54, 55 and 57 of the Planning Act related to control of the division of land, as well as other housekeeping or consequential changes.
- Upon proclamation, the changes will:
  - provide new exceptions to subdivision control and part lot control (i.e., exceptions from the need for land division approval) – for example, by preventing parcels from merging with other lands in certain circumstances
  - change the plan of subdivision process – for example, by aligning the requirements for public notice, information, and public meetings with other instruments under the Act
  - change the consent application process – for example, by requiring a municipality or the Minister, where requested, to issue a certificate for the retained land in addition to providing a certificate for the lands that are subject to the consent application, and
  - make other changes regarding subdivision control and its related processes – for example, by requiring that a decision on a validation conform with the same criteria which are applicable to consents.

## **What changes will be made with respect to “lot mergers”?**

- Changes will be made to the subdivision control provisions to prevent lots from merging where lands were previously owned by, or abutted land previously owned by, joint tenants and where the ownership would have otherwise merged as a result of the death of one of the joint tenants.
- Outside of a “death of a joint tenant” scenario, lot mergers will continue to occur.

## **What changes will be made to the consent application process?**

- Changes will be made to the consent application process to, for example:
  - permit a purchaser of land or the purchaser’s agent to apply for a consent
  - establish a new certificate of cancellation
  - provide for certificates to be issued in respect of retained land in addition to the lands that are subject to the consent application
  - provide for a standard two-year period during which the conditions of a consent must be satisfied, and
  - permit a consent application to be amended by an applicant prior to a decision about the consent being made by the consent-granting authority.
- Municipalities may need to modify or update certain administrative processes as a result of some of these changes.

## **What is a certificate for retained land?**

- Changes to the Planning Act will provide for a consent-granting authority to issue a certificate for the retained land (the other part of the parcel approved through the land division process) resulting from certain consents.
- This certificate will show that the retained land has “consent” status.
- An applicant will need to specify in their application whether they are requesting a retained land certificate, and if so, require that a statement from a solicitor

confirming the extend of the owner's retained land be included as part of that application.

### **What is a certificate of cancellation?**

- In some situations, the original consent granted for a parcel of land may no longer be wanted or needed. This could occur, for example, where a parcel created by consent may need to be widened to accommodate a driveway. In these cases, the original consent may need to be cancelled to ensure the revised parcel will function as a single unit.
- Changes to the Planning Act will allow owners to apply to the consent-granting authority for a certificate of cancellation for a parcel that was previously severed with a consent. The consent-granting authority may also require the owner to apply as a condition of approval.
- Once a certificate of cancellation is issued, the parcel would be treated as though the previous consent had not been given. This could mean that the parcel would merge with neighbouring lands that are owned by the same person.

### **What considerations need to be applied to validation requests?**

- A validation can be used in place of obtaining a consent to the contravening transaction (transfer or other transaction that was made in breach of the Planning Act requirements) in certain situations; for example, where the landowners at the time of the contravention are not available to sign the new transfer documents.
- The validation allows the validation authority to consider each situation on its merits and decide whether a request to validate title should be supported. The validation authority may, as a condition to issuing the validation, impose conditions as it considers appropriate.
- Bill 276 will make changes to require that a decision regarding a validation must conform with the same criteria which are applicable to consents, for example:
  - having regard to provincial interests and the land division criteria set out in the Planning Act
  - ensuring the validation is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and conforms, or does not conflict, with provincial plans, and
  - ensuring the validation conforms with all applicable official plans.

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**January 7, 2022**

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Municipal Chief Administrative Officers and Clerks

**SUBJECT:** Omicron Variant of COVID-19, Testing and Isolation  
Guidelines, and Emergency Work Deployment Order  
O.Reg.157/20

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I am writing today to provide updated information related to the ongoing pandemic and Ontario's response to protect against the Omicron variant. I will start by acknowledging that Ontario is very grateful for the continued partnership with Ontario's municipalities. Local leaders and public servants have been at the forefront of the response to COVID for going on two years now and your leadership and resiliency have been remarkable.

### **Ontario Temporarily Moving to Modified Step Two of the Roadmap to Reopen**

On January 3, 2022, Ontario announced that in response to recent trends that show an alarming increase in COVID-19 hospitalizations, the province will return to a modified version of Step Two of the Roadmap to Reopen effective Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 12:01 a.m. for at least 21 days (until January 26, 2022).

Among a range of measures this includes reduced limits for social gatherings and indoor organized public events, closures and restrictions for businesses and organizations, and a requirement for remote work unless the nature of the work requires employees to be onsite.

I encourage you to review, with your legal counsel, the rules for areas in Step Two which are set out in O Reg 263/20: Rules for Areas in Step 2. Subsection 1 (7) of Schedule 1 of the regulation provides that nothing in the order precludes operations or delivery of services by any governments (which includes municipalities).

The measures also include a return to remote learning for Ontario students until January 17, 2022. During this period free emergency childcare will be provided for school aged children of eligible frontline workers. The list of eligible workers is set out in Schedule 4 of O. Reg. 263/20 which can be found at: <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/200263#BK8>

Municipalities have the flexibility to determine what local procedures work best for them to maintain continuity of operations and decision-making while complying with all applicable laws and public health measures. In addition, local Medical Officers of Health may issue Section 22 orders under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* or instructions under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* to apply public health and workplace safety measures.

## **New Testing and Isolation Guidelines**

On December 30, 2021, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ontario updated its COVID-19 testing and isolation guidelines. These updates, based on emerging evidence from Canada and other jurisdictions, are focused on ensuring resources are available for the highest-risk settings and the most vulnerable and help keep critical services running.

For further information, I encourage CAOs and Clerks to review the detailed information on the updates to testing and isolation guidelines found [here](#) and [here](#).

## **Work Deployment Order**

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the municipal work deployment order ([O. Reg. 157/20](#)) under the *Reopening Ontario Act, 2020*, remains in place at this time to provide municipalities with the flexibility to deploy certain of their staff to where they are needed most. As you know, this is a temporary measure that is reviewed regularly and, if determined to be necessary can be renewed after each 30-day period.

Moreover, as you and others in your organization consider whether and how you will exercise the authority under this emergency order, I would ask that you consider the following:

- In making staffing decisions, first provide opportunity for full-time work to existing part-time staff before seeking out and employing extra full-time staff from outside your organization.
- In redeploying staff, should there be a difference in the terms and conditions of work, in the different departments of the organization, the expectation is that staff will not receive a lower wage than their home position.
- The *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and existing rights under the *Employment Standards Act* will continue to apply.
- Municipalities, as employers, are required to comply with all provincial orders, as well as any guidance and safety standards prescribed by the province for COVID-19. They are also responsible for ensuring that any staff being reassigned to new duties have the required training and skills.

For municipalities who are relying on the order to deploy staff, it is important to work collaboratively and engage in good faith with bargaining agents when using the order's authority, and to develop longer-term staffing plans and identify related resource needs for when the order is no longer in effect.

Municipalities are encouraged to review this and other applicable orders (available on the Government's Emergency Information webpage at: [Ontario.ca/alert](https://ontario.ca/alert) and work with their legal counsel for advice and understanding of the flexibility and obligations this and other orders provides municipalities, as employers.

### **Vaccine Boosters and Proof of Vaccination Updates**

To protect Ontario's progress in the fight against COVID-19 and slow the spread of the Omicron variant, the government is taking actions, including [rapidly accelerating its booster dose rollout](#), and enhancing proof of vaccination requirements, which will impact businesses and organizations. Your continued support in the delivery of vaccinations remains critical to our shared success.

As of Monday, December 20, 2021, individuals aged 18 and over are eligible to schedule their booster dose appointment. At this time, this does not change the definition of fully vaccinated.

Please reference the full set of guidance which is found [here](#). Please continue to check regularly for updates on this site as situation change.

Proof of vaccination requirements at select [businesses and organizations](#) will remain in effect beyond January 17, 2022.

Starting January 4, 2022, it will be mandatory for individuals to use the enhanced vaccine certificate with QR code and for businesses to use the Verify Ontario app in settings where proof of vaccination is required, except for nine First Nations communities who can still show their vaccine receipt. Individuals will continue to need to show a piece of identification that matches their name and date of birth to their enhanced COVID-19 vaccine certificate when required.

Thank you for your continued support in protecting the health and well-being of Ontarians while delivering the services they depend upon.

Sincerely,



Kate Manson-Smith  
Deputy Minister



**Ministry of Northern Development,  
Mines, Natural Resources and  
Forestry**

Resources Planning and Development  
Policy Branch  
Policy Division  
300 Water Street  
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7

**Ministère du Développement du Nord, des  
Mines, des Richesses Naturelles et des  
Forêts**

Direction des politiques de planification et  
d'exploitation des ressources  
Division de l'élaboration des politiques  
300, rue Water  
Peterborough (Ontario) K9J 3C7



**Subject: Proposed regulatory changes under the Aggregate Resources Act**

Dear Ontario Heads of Council and Clerks,

The Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry recognizes the critical role Ontario's municipalities play in the lives of Ontarians. We value our strong collaborative partnership with municipalities and the associations that represent their interests.

I am writing to inform you, the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry is proposing regulatory changes under the *Aggregate Resources Act*. These changes will harmonize with Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' new provincial requirements under the *Environmental Protection Act* (EPA) for soil that is moved during construction activities to another site for a beneficial reuse (i.e., excess soil). Ontario Regulation 406/19, and Rules for Soil Management and Excess Soil Quality Standards include risk-based quality standards for the safe reuse of excess soil.

**We invite you to review the changes and offer comments.**

A complete summary of the proposed regulatory changes can be found on the Environmental Registry at the following address: [www.ero.ontario.ca](http://www.ero.ontario.ca)

Then search for notice: 019-4801

There are several ways you can comment on this proposal, including:

1. Directly through the Environmental Registry posting (click on the "Submit a comment" button)
2. By email to [aggregates@ontario.ca](mailto:aggregates@ontario.ca), or
3. By mail to:

Resources Development Section  
Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry  
300 Water Street, 2nd Floor South  
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7

If you have any questions you can contact Darryl Mitchell at (705) 313-2154.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Keyes,  
Director, Resources Planning and Development Policy Branch

**From:** [Aleysha Blake](#)  
**To:** [Cindy Pigeau](#)  
**Subject:** FW: North Bay French River Algonquins Information  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 1:15:16 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[NBFR presentation of their public meeting.pdf](#)

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**From:** Monica Hawkins [mailto:monica.hawkins@eastferris.ca]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 12:53 PM  
**To:** Fedeli, Vic <vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org>; Anthony.Rota@parl.gc.ca; Andrée Gagne <deputyclerk@bonfieldtownship.org>; j.leblond@chisholm.ca; Aleysha Blake <administration@calvintownship.ca>; Township of Papineau-Cameron <admin@papineaucameron.ca>; Town of Mattawa <info@mattawa.ca>; Karen Mclsaac <Karen.Mclsaac@northbay.ca>; dylan.whiteduck@kza.qc.ca  
**Subject:** North Bay French River Algonquins Information

Hello,

The attached information was provided to our Council at their regular meeting held on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. At our Council's request, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, we are sending the information to you for information purposes only.

Best regards,  
Monica

**Monica L. Hawkins, AMCT**

*Clerk*

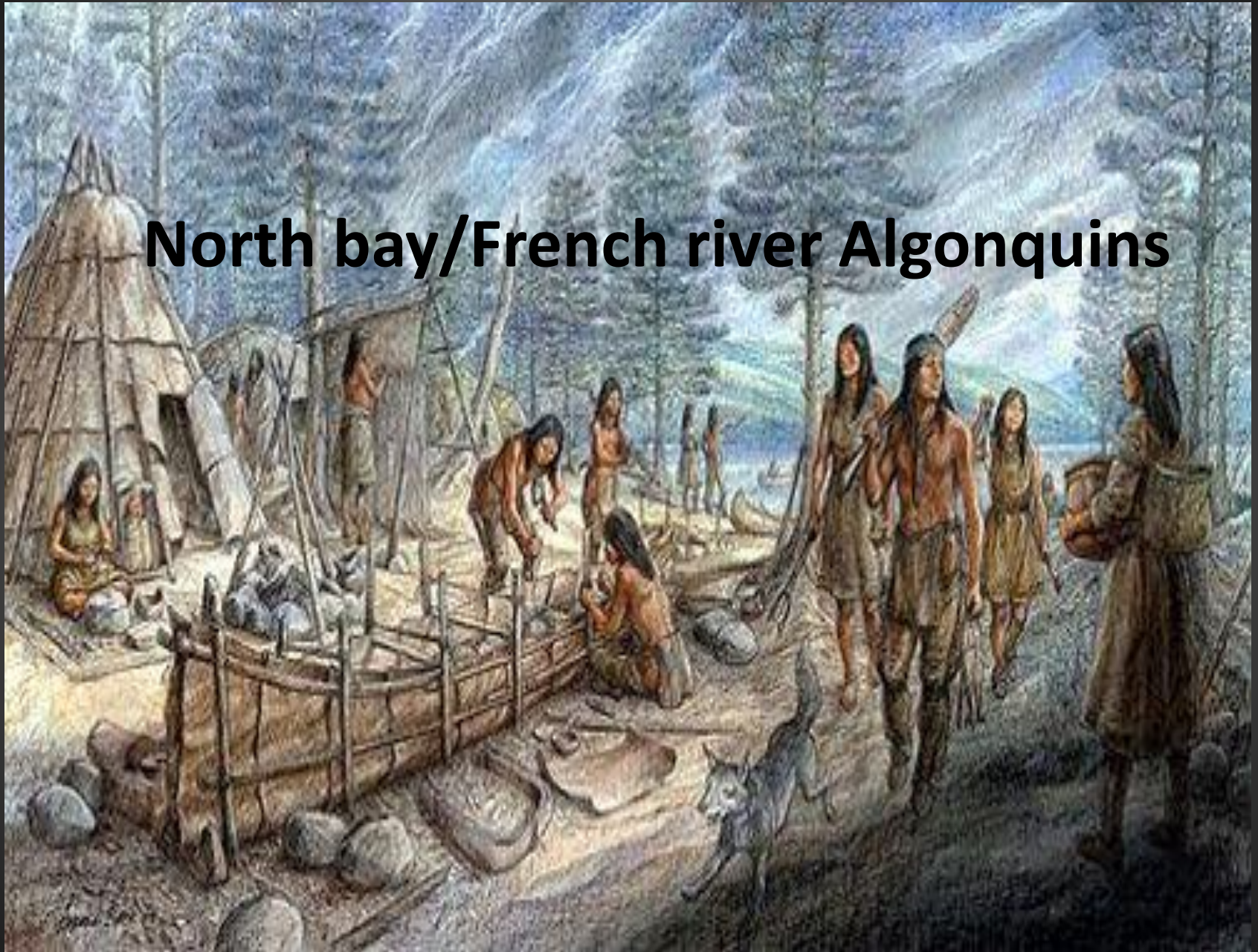


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# North bay/French river Algonquins



# GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING December 7<sup>th</sup>

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- OPENING COMMENTS by  
the Chairman
- Rolland Boissonneault





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- It was our goal to have a distribution of directors representing different locations within the boundaries of the NBFRA and to establish policies and procedures that will best suit the needs of our members.
  - Good governance principles demand that an organization's board of directors ensure overall high ethical behavior which I know that we have within our Corporation of 9 board members, including myself, Rolland Boissonneault as Chairman and I will leave the floor to the directors to present themselves.

# Our board of directors

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- Rolland Boissonneault.....Chairman
- Rene Giroux.....Vice- Chairman
- Jerry “Jay” Michaud.....Director
- Stephane Bellemare.....Director
- Maxime Gareau.....Director
- Cecil Demers.....Director
- Camille Gaudreault.....Director
- Guylaine Sullivan.....Director
- Gerry Serre.....Director

# North bay/Mattawa Algonquin Appeal update

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- It was decided that only 20 family names with guaranteed Algonquin ancestries were included in the appeal to minimize any delays in the process.
- Once these families have been returned their AOO title it will open the process for other certified Algonquin families that were removed from the voters list to be re-instated.
- Our case is in the hands of a legal team that will represent us in this appeal process.
- Further information will be passed on to our members once we are notified.

# CULTURE AND HERITAGE REPORT

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- Lake Nipissing, named also **Nipissin** and Lake of Nipissiriniens which means "little water" and was the fishing and hunting grounds of the Nipissing tribe.
- Their language was Algonkian; "These are true Algonquin's, and they alone have retained the Algonquin language without alterations".
- The Algonquin's were their friends and the Huron's their allies. The Iroquois defeated them and destroyed them almost to the point of extinction.





- Those who managed to escape the Iroquois' fury found refuge on Lake Nipigon.
- By 1647 the Nipissing regrouped in the Lake Nipigon and continued to use their historical routes but at a greater risk.
- They never surrendered their ancestral fishing and hunting grounds and never signed a treaty.
- In 1671 the Nipissing tribe relocated in the missions of Trois Rivieres and others in Oka. They were nomad people, meaning they had no fixed residence but within their fishing and hunting habitat.
- Hunting and fishing provided the bulk of sustenance for the Algonquin & Nipissing people.



- The Nipissiriniens had their main summer village on the North side of Lake Nipissing (which Champlain visited in 1615) and whose territories extended over a considerable area in all directions from that lake including parts of Northeastern Georgian Bay, the Mattawa River and the adjacent portions of the Ottawa River Watershed.
- The Nipissing Tribe took a great quantity of sturgeons, pike and carp , some of them of enormous size, from both their lake (Nipissing) and the Sturgeon River.
- They never surrendered their ancestral fishing and hunting grounds and never signed a treaty.

# Nations of the Great Lakes Region (EARLY 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY)





# The journey begins



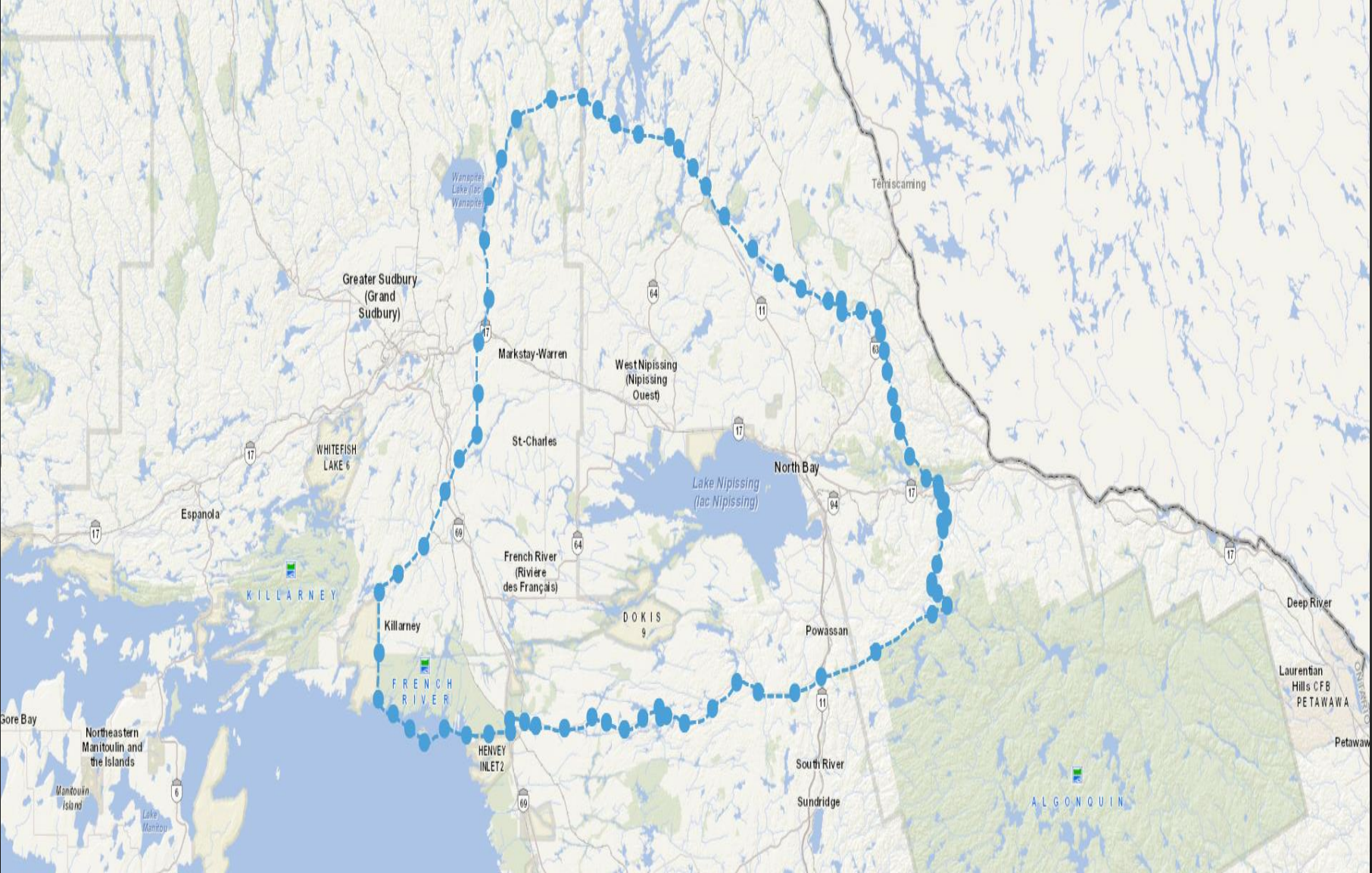
- 
- Since its inception on August 16<sup>th</sup> 2021
  - The North Bay/French River Algonquins is now a not-for-profit Corporation registered under the Federal NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION ACT.
  - In our Certificate of Incorporation, it indicates that our Corporation is for “The establishment and operation of a non-profit organization for the purpose of uniting the residents of the North Bay/French River area who are of Algonquin origin”.

# BOUNDARIES FOR NORTH BAY/FRENCH RIVER ALGONQUINS

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- The area of the Mattawa River to lake Nipissing, namely the townships of CALVIN, BONFIELD, BOULTER, CHISHOLM, EAST FERRIS, POWASSAN, NORTH HIMSWORTH (Callander) and NORTH BAY as well as the North side of Lake Nipissing to the Georgian Bay within the municipalities of WEST NIPISSING, WARREN, HAGAR, ST-CHARLES, MONETVILLE, NOELVILLE and LAVIGNE and others along the French River and it's distributaries.
- Historically these areas were the Algonquin, Nipissing & Amikwabe tribes' habitats prior to the European presence which was also their fishing, hunting and ceremonial grounds. Excluded from our jurisdiction territory will be Nipissing First Nation, Dokis and Henley Inlet Reserves.

# Preliminary map



# OUR VISION

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- It is not the NBFRA'S vision to develop crown land in our territory.
- As a nonprofit corporation it is our goal to create recreational areas for the public in order to keep the natural beauty of our lakes and forests and to maintain control over our fishing and hunting grounds in order to prevent depletion of our valuable natural resources.



# Our biggest goal

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- Is to protect our resources from the abuse and destruction within the **NBFRA** boundaries
- to maintain the beauty that was sustained for centuries prior and after the European settlement.
- It is our responsibility and duty that our future generations enjoy the same natural privileges that we have.

# NBFRA QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

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- **NBFRA** will have a revised list of the approved ancestors which are from the Algonquin, Nipissing and Amikwabe Tribes, as they are all classified as Algonquins.

# AOO,AIP Update

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- There is at least 54 Algonquin ancestors which have no Algonquin origin, that are on the draft list as approved ancestors for the **Algonquin Nation of Ontario** and the list is being used to qualify applicants for memberships
- In the next few slides, you will see how the numbers don't add up.

# AOO voters list breakdown

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- The 2015 AOO Voter's List that was prepared for voting on the Agreement In Principle dated February 2016.
- Total members on the list provided with the name of their ancestor is 3,058

# Greater Golden Lake

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- Algonquins .....136.....19 %
- Non Algonquins..... 580... 81 %
- Total Votes.....716
  
- Votes on the AIP
- Yes 496
- No 34
- Rejected 01
- Total Votes 531
- List compiled by the Algonquin Secretariat analysis A.O.O. voters' list of February 2015 to vote on AIP between February 29, 2016 to March 7 2016.

# Bonnechere

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- Algonquins .....173.....45.9 %
- Non Algonquins..... 204.....54.1 %
- Total Votes.....377

- Votes on the AIP
- Yes 397
- No 14
- Rejected 00
- Total Votes 411

# Ottawa

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- Algonquins .....5..... 0.08 %
- Non Algonquins..... ..57.... 91.9 %
- Total Votes.....62
- Votes on the AIP
- Yes 51
- No 16
- Rejected 00
- Total Votes 67

# Mattawa/North bay

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- Algonquins .....1,530.....86.9 %
- Non Algonquins.....230.....13.1 %
- Total Votes.....1,760
- Votes on AIP
- Yes 1,612
- No 51
- Rejected 4
- Total votes 1,667
- This Community removed approx. 600 members which had an approved ancestor after the vote which represents 37.2 % that they claim shouldn't have voted.



# Sharbot Lake

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- Algonquins .....69.... 88.5 %
- Non Algonquins.....09 .....11.5 %
- Total Votes.....78

# Antoine

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- Algonquins .....22...100 %
- Non Algonquins.....00
- Total Votes.....22

# Whitney

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- **Algonquins .....00.....00 %**
- **Non Algonquins.....01....100 %**
- **Total Votes.....01**

- **No affiliation members**
- **Algonquins .....00.....00 %**
- **Non Algonquins.....05.....100 %**
- **Total Votes.....05**
- **Votes on the AIP**
- **Yes 9**
- **No 2**
- **Rejected 0**
- **Total Votes 11**

# END RESULTS FOR THE AIP VOTES

as per ratification officer Vaughn Johnston & witnessed by Laura Sarazin

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- Yes.....3,341
  - No..... 225
  - Rejected..... 9
  - Total.....3,675
- 
- 89% were unqualified to vote on the AIP
  - Not included in the 89% are all the members that lost their cards based on Jean Prevost and Francoise Leblanc.
  - There is at least 54 Algonquin ancestors which have no Algonquin origin, that are on the draft list as approved ancestors for the **Algonquin Nation of Ontario** and the list is being used to qualify applicants for memberships

# What we're not about!

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- Greater Golden Lake had a Harvest Draw meeting for moose tags at Chief Pauline Connie Mielke's residence on August 15, 2021.
- As per CBC's investigation Chief Mielke is not an Algonquin as it was noted that her ancestors Thomas Lagarde dit St Jean & his wife Emilie Sophie Carriere dit Jamme were not Algonquins.

# RESULTS FROM AOO HARVEST DRAW :

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- Documents released by Algonquin of Greater Golden Lake dated September 2, 2021 by ANR chief Connie Mielke
- Re : 2021-2022 HARVEST
- The draw results that took place on Sunday August 15th, 2021 at chief Mielke's residence is as follows.
  - 40 tags in total were allocated for bulls and cows:
  - 27 were given to Non Algonquins
  - 8 were questionable as no record of ancestry was available
  - 5 were Algonquins

# Bow hunting



- 13 tags in total were allocated for bow hunting
- 9 were given to Non Algonquins
- 1 was questionable as no record of ancestry was available
- 3 were Algonquins

# Elk Hunt



- 6 tags in total were allocated for Elk hunting
- 2 were given to Non Algonquins
- 4 were questionable as no record of ancestry was available



# Deer allocation

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- On the same document it also stated that 2 deer were allocated per family.
- It was also indicated by Chief Mielke that hunters also killed deer in feeding areas and she commented this is a concern and should be discouraged.



# In conclusion

- Reckless harvesting is reducing the forest and its habitat.
- Due to the attractive timber revenues, some Algonquin communities have forgotten about their past.
- We must work together to preserve nature and at the same time allow for responsible harvesting.
- Clear cutting forests and strip-mining the land should be controlled.
- NBFRA will work closely with all timber management projects to limit the damage to our land by implementing strict harvesting guidelines.

# A message from our Elder

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- An Algonquin elder “Harold .../Skip/ Ross

Kaamidjiyuk Sibi Innini Running River Man”

I quote: “If Modern man would or could learn to respect Mother Earth as we (Algonquins) did many years ago, they would learn to preserve many things that we are losing, things that can never be replaced”.

The popular names of ANCESTORS listed below will be removed from the list of North Bay/French River Algonquins for not meeting the criteria of having any Algonquin ancestry.

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- Thomas Lagarde dit St Jean
- Emilie Sophie Carriere dit Jamme
- Jean Prevost & Francoise Leblanc;
- Paule Ouripehenemick;
- Jacques Paquette;
- Hannah Mannell ;
- Cecile Mawiskak (Mc Donell);
- Peter Clermo (Clermont);
- Pierre Mikkima;
  
- including 45 other ancestors.

# “Questionable decisions ?”

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- On July 14, 2010 an appeal was presented in Mattawa regarding the Laplante ancestor.
- The chief of Mattawa/North Bay Algonquins and Joan Holmes, the enrollment officer were present when the appeal board endorsed with a majority to reinstate the appellants from the Laplante line as Algonquins.
- Following the ruling of July 14, 2010 the appellants received a letter from the enrollment officer stating and I quote **“We are happy to inform you that the appeal board ruled that the appellants can be enrolled as Algonquins for the purpose of negotiation of the Algonquin land claim”** and furthermore **“has been placed on the electors list and are illegible to vote in Algonquin negotiations representative (ANR) elections”**.

# “Questionable decisions ?”cont.

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- In a letter dated July 15, 2020 the appellants received another letter stating and I quote **“furthermore you will not be eligible for any benefits including harvesting under the authority of the Algonquins of Ontario”** and **“you will not be eligible to vote on the ratification of the final treaty and you will not become a beneficiary of that treaty”** and **“In addition, you will be afforded the opportunity to appeal the decision of the enrollment officer”**. Hard to believe that these letters were sent by the same enrollment officer.

## A statement from our Chairman

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- During my past political experience on different boards, I know for a fact that only the Minister of any government branch has the power to overrule an appeal decision. NO ONE ELSE has the authority to overrule therefore the Appeal Board decision is final.

# RE-INSTATED ANCESTORS

---

- Marie Elize Marguerite Ranger dit Lavallee, daughter of Marie Angelique Masanakaniekokwe •
- Marie Josette Kijikokwe aka Kiwikijikokwe (Bechamp/Pigeau) who were wrongfully rejected from the list of the Algonquin Nation of Ontario's approved Ancestors draft list. (draft means not final). Cont.....



# RE-INSTATED ANCESTORS

## Quotes

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- Au poste des Allumettes le 27 Aout , 1838  
Baptême d'Augustin Bechand (jr.)
- *Bechand Margin note:*  
« Ils ont nombre d'enfants. Elle est libre de pouvoir se marier, fidèle avec infidèle s'entendrait-il au cas présent un parti n'étant point Savage ».  
*Charles de Bellefeuille ptre.*
- Augustin Jr. is the son of Augustin Bechand Sr. and Josette Kwekkikjikokwe.

# RE-INSTATED ANCESTORS

## Quotes (cont.)

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- ENROLMENT OFFICER'S translation of this note, and I quote "Josette Kwekkikjikokwe sauvage infidèle du poste volant de Matawakamang dans le District de Northwest (dans le district de l'Abitibi mission de Maniwaki).
- Quote " It also noted that the couple had been married in the Indian fashion when the children were born".  
(all fabricated)
- A block of Algonquins was removed based on fabrication taking away their heritage and rights (as per the Constitution Act of 1982 s35) done disrespectfully.

# CBC investigation

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- August 9, 2021 CBC with an update posted September 13, 2021 they indicated that Jean Lagarde dit St-Jean was not an Algonquin and that over 1,000 people including both Algonquin chiefs of Ottawa & Greater Golden Lake communities who also had him as an ancestor.
- Neither Robert Potts nor the consultant/enrollment officer to this day took any action or recommend the removal of these non Algonquins.
- Robert Potts told CBC “It is difficult to respond, it consists of vague statements and allegations presented in summary way” adding “I haven’t seen much of the information that you have referred to”.
- Chief Davie Joannis from the Antoine Community stated “The revelations about the letter could mean hundreds of people will be struck from the AOO membership list”

# CBC investigation “continue”

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- Bill Mann, author of the conspiracy theory says the letter was dropped in his mailbox in 2011.

“It’s brought in a whole number of people who are not First Nation and not Algonquin based on a tenuous (flimsy) tie to a root ancestor”

# CBC investigation “continue”

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- CBC investigation says “Mysterious letter linking 1,000 people to \$1 billion Algonquin treaty likely fake”.
- In a study pursued by Darryl Laroux on behalf of Golden Lake community his finding came to the same conclusion. Given the importance of this pivotal letter, CBC undertook an investigation involving handwriting analysis, archival research, historical review and extensive interviews.

“Experts suggested that the letter is highly suspicious and likely not authentic”.

# CBC investigation “continue”

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- Veldon Coburn said after looking at all this evidence he has concluded “it’s unlikely that this letter is authentic” adding “it’s almost in my mind a certainty that this is a forgery”
- After all this evidence of fraud the AOO’S lawyer Mr. Robert Potts, told CBC it is difficult to respond “as it consists of vague statements and allegations presented in a summary way” adding “I haven’t seen much of the information that you have referred to”.

# CBC investigation “continue”

---

- Furthermore Mr. Robert Potts said some critics will “never be satisfied until the Lagarde group is bumped from the beneficiary list” so that there are fewer people to share the settlement. Instead, he was more comfortable to remove about 600 genuine Algonquins from North Bay and area as previously mentioned “so that there are fewer people to share the settlement”. Why was he reluctant to remove members that are not Algonquins and comfortable to remove people that have genuine Algonquin Ancestors.

# CBC investigation “continue”

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- Because of all the irregularities, the fraudulent documents discovered by the CBC investigation, the North Bay/French River Algonquin will be making an official request to modify the Agreement in Principle to implement the financial portion of Mattawa/North Bay Algonquins of Ontario.
- Furthermore, that the AIP be modified to implement the boundaries as shown on the map of the NBFRA considering that 87% of voters were considered illegitimate and not qualified to vote on the AIP.



# Proposed Criteria

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- Many members lost their cards under a PROPOSED CRITERIA. (proposed means suggested guide line) Neither the draft list or the proposed criteria were finalized and approved by the membership, which contravenes with section 10 of the Indian Act.
- Algonquins of Ontario negotiating administrators were the only ones that voted which also contravenes with the Indian Act Section 10 s.(2) and I quote “A band may, pursuant to the consent of a majority of the electors of the band”, meaning the band may control the memberships with a majority of the electors. Furthermore Section 10 s.(4) indicates clearly and I quote “A band’s membership rules can not deprive a person of previously acquired rights to membership”.

# VAN der PEET TEST

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- The NBFRA'S criteria will be based on the VAN der PEET TEST which has been adopted by the Supreme Court of Canada as Justice Lamer C.J. explains "An unbroken chain of continuity is not required".
- Also Justice McLacklin noted in the Van der Peet Test and I quote "It is not unusual for the exercise of a right to lapse for a period time" meaning that the 20 years that was required under the Proposed Criteria of the Algonquin Nation of Ontario contravenes with the Supreme Court of Canada rulings.

# VAN der PEET TEST cont.

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- This test protects only those present-day practices that have a reasonable degree of Continuity with practice that existed prior to contact.
- While the test does not require an unbroken chain of continuity, and while continuity must be interpreted flexibly, such flexibility has its limits.
- While temporal gaps do not necessarily preclude the establishment of an aboriginal right, failing to tender sufficient evidence that at least a connection to the historical practice was maintained during such gaps.

# VAN der PEET TEST cont.

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- Section 35 (1) accords constitutional protection only to the rights of the “aboriginal people of Canada”.
- The courts held that s.35 (1) is to be interpreted to determine the meaning of “ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF CANADA” as they relied on the VAN der PEET TEST to conceptualize the rights referred to in s.35 (1).
- As stated by the Court of Appeal “Simply put, if the Van der Peet Test requirements are met, the modern indigenous community will be an “aboriginal people of Canada”.
- Mr. Desautel concluded that the Aboriginal people of Canada under s.35 (1) are the modern day successors of Aboriginal societies that occupied what is now Canada at the time the European contact (subject to modification that may be necessary in the case of the Metis).
- Where this is shown, the court ascertains the claimants rights using the Van der Peet Test.

Continue..

- Par. 31.... The aboriginal people of Canada under s.35(1) are the modern successors of those aboriginal societies that occupied Canadian territory at the time of European contact.
- This may include Aboriginal groups that are now outside Canada.
- Par. 33.....I would add that an interpretation of “aboriginal people of Canada in s.35(1) that includes Aboriginal people who were here when the Europeans arrived and later moved or were forced to moved elsewhere, or on whom international boundaries where imposed reflects the purpose of reconciliation.

# Your personal information

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- The NORTH BAY/FRENCH RIVER ALGONQUINS strongly suggests that in order to expedite your interest in North Bay/French River Algonquin memberships, that you insist from the Community from which you were refused, ignored or had your card revoked, to provide you with your file which was given to them when you applied.
- If your community says that it is the consultant & enrollment officer, Joan Holmes & Associates that has your application then it is your community's responsibility to obtain it for you.
- IT IS THE COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY TO RETURN YOUR FILE

# In conclusion

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- The information we provided you tonight is not based on allegations or fabrication. It is supported by documents initiated and publicized by the Algonquin nations of Ontario.
- No wonder that Mann strongly discouraged CBC from reporting on this story, arguing “**that it will rip the Algonquin land claim apart**”, obviously he wanted to cover up this fraudulent document.

# Cont...

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- These are all indications that the agreement in principle is “**possibly**” fraudulent and both levels of government could be seen as partners in complicity as well as some type of cover up.
- Both parties have the information on the amount of non-Algonquins that will be sharing in the land claim by also taking the rights away from real Algonquins.



# Cont..

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- The proposed criteria from the AOO is designed to take away the rights of many Algonquins with proven ancestry, and to also lower the number of voters in the AIP.
- It does not take in consideration our rights that is protected by the constitution act of 1982 s.35.
- NBFRA will pursue full recovery of those rights!

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We will now hear your questions and concerns.

Thank you for being a part of the North Bay/ French  
River Algonquin community.



# Corporation of the Town of Mattawa

(705) 744-5611 • (705) 744-0104

160 Water Street — P.O. Box 390  
MATTAWA, ONTARIO P0H 1V0

info@mattawa.ca

January 11, 2022

City of North Bay  
Mr. David Euler  
Chief Administrative Officer  
200 McIntyre St E.  
North Bay, ON P1B 8V6

Dear Mr. Euler:

Council of the Town of Mattawa, at their regular meeting of January 10, 2022 approved Page No. 2 of Resolution Number 22-01, which stated:

***“WHEREAS Stop-Arm Camera Systems are a major part of creating safer school buses and safer roads for all area residents;***

***AND WHEREAS Bill 174 received Royal Assent on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, under Schedule 4 Amendments to the Highway Traffic Act by adding a new Part providing for the use of automated school bus camera systems;***

***AND WHEREAS given the district courts are in North Bay, it is imperative that the City of North Bay come on board with Stoop-Arm Camera Program so that other municipalities within the Nipissing District can move forward to help keep the children in the communities safe;***

***BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of Mattawa request the City of North Bay to look into the process of implementing a stop-arm camera program with BusPatrol for the City with the goal of developing a regional program to ensure coverage of all school buses within the collective municipalities;***

***AND FURTHER that this resolution be forwarded to FONOM, OGRA, Let's Remember Adam, Stop for School Buses, BusPatrol and municipalities that form part of the Provincial Offences Act (POA) through the City of North Bay.”***

Trusting this is acceptable.

Sincerely,

Amy Leclerc  
Clerk/ Revenue Services Clerk

AL/bb

c.c. FONOM  
OGRA  
Let's Remember Adam  
Stop for School Buses  
BusPatrol  
Township of Bonfield  
Township of Calvin  
Township of Chisholm  
Township of East Ferris  
Township of Mattawan  
Township of Papineau-Cameron  
Municipality of West Nipissing  
Municipality of Powassan  
Township of Nipissing  
Municipality of Callander  
Municipality of French River  
Municipality of Markstay-Warren  
Municipality of St. Charles  
Nipissing Band No.10, Nipissing First Nation Band Office



**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHISHOLM**

2847 Chiswick Line, R.R. # 4, Powassan, Ontario, P0H 1Z0

**MOVED BY:**

- Nunzio Scarfone
- James Gauthier
- Bernadette Kerr
- David Coombs

**SECONDED BY:**

- Nunzio Scarfone
- James Gauthier
- Bernadette Kerr
- David Coombs

**RESOLUTION #:2022- 12**

**Date: January 11, 2022**

Be it resolved THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of Chisholm:

1. Supports the City of North Bay's initiative to continue to investigate the implications of transitioning Cassellholme from a District Board of Management home to a City of North Bay Municipal home as soon as possible;
2. Direct the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer to communicate on behalf of the Township of Chisholm with the Member Municipalities and Members of Provincial Government regarding the transitioning of Cassellholme from a District Board of Management Home to a Municipal Home for the purpose of gathering information and showing support of the transition, if found feasible by the City of North Bay.
3. Continue to support the redevelopment of Cassellholme, in parallel with the possible transitioning of the home to the City of North Bay; and
4. This resolution be forwarded to all the member municipalities.

**I declare this Resolution**

- Carried
- Defeated
- Deferred

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mayor

RECORDED VOTE		
	For	Against
Nunzio Scarfone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
James Gauthier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
Bernadette Kerr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
David Coombs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
Gail Degagne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST*	
Name: _____	Reason: _____
_____	_____
*Removed from discussion and vote.	

**From:** [Beaudin, Lisa \(MHSTCI\)](#) on behalf of [Kelly Gatten, Katherine \(MHSTCI\)](#)  
**To:** [Kelly Gatten, Katherine \(MHSTCI\)](#)  
**Subject:** COVID-19 Proof of Vaccination | Preuve de vaccination contre la COVID-19  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 3:53:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [Memo\\_Proof of Vaccination Libraries\\_2022-01-12.pdf](#)  
[FR-Memo\\_Proof of Vaccination Libraries\\_2022-01-12.pdf](#)  
[Access & Print Here FINAL.pdf](#)  
[Access & Print Your Proof of Vaccination FINAL.pdf](#)  
[Accédez à votre preuve de vaccination.pdf](#)  
[How to Help Accessing & Printing Someone's Proof of Vaccination FINAL.pdf](#)  
[Accédez à votre.pdf](#)  
[Comment offrir de l'aide.pdf](#)

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January 12, 2022

**Memorandum to:** All Ontario Public Library CEOs

**From:** Katherine Kelly Gatten, Assistant Deputy Minister

**Subject:** COVID-19 Proof of Vaccination

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Dear Valued Community Partners,

We would like to thank you for your support in helping Ontarians access their proof of vaccination.

To protect Ontario's progress in the fight against COVID-19 and slow the spread of the Omicron variant, the government is taking further actions to encourage vaccination. We would appreciate your support in helping the community to get their enhanced COVID-19 vaccine certificate with a QR (Quick Response) code.

On September 22, 2021, the government mandated that proof of vaccination must be shown in some settings to help increase vaccination rates, protect individuals in higher-risk indoor settings, and keep businesses open. [Regulations](#) and [guidance](#) for businesses and organizations were released to support them in implementing proof of vaccination requirements in prescribed settings.

Since October 22, 2021, Ontarians can prove their vaccination status by showing an enhanced vaccine certificate with a unique QR code which, combined with the Verify Ontario app, makes it safer, more secure and convenient to show vaccination status.

On December 10, Ontario announced a number of measures, including advising that starting January 4, 2022, it will be mandatory for individuals to use the enhanced vaccine certificate with QR code and for businesses to use the Verify Ontario app in settings where proof of vaccination is required. The QR code can be used digitally or by printing a paper copy. Individuals can download their enhanced certificate with QR code by visiting [Ontario.ca/book-vaccine](https://ontario.ca/book-vaccine). It is also important to know that a person does not need to download or print a new copy of their vaccine certificate after getting a third or booster dose unless they need a full record for other purposes.

In addition, on December 15, 2021, Ontario started a [new process](#) to provide an enhanced COVID-19 vaccine certificate with QR code for individuals who have an eligible medical exemption or are participating in an active, [Health Canada Approved COVID-19 vaccine clinical trial](#). As of January 10, 2022, only those with enhanced vaccine certificates will be accepted.

Effective January 5, 2022, for at least 21 days, the province has temporarily returned to a modified version of [Step Two of the Roadmap to Reopen](#) in response to recent trends that show an alarming increase in COVID-19 hospitalizations as a result of the Omicron variant's high transmissibility. This temporary change impacts many places where proof of vaccination is required.

We are asking libraries, community centres, and other community spaces to provide services to help Ontarians who do not have the tools necessary to access and print their enhanced vaccine certificate with QR code.

We would like to share with you again the following resources to support your offices with assisting Ontarians, as we expect there may be more people asking for help when the new requirements come into effect:

1. A "Print Here" poster, to display in your office window
2. A How to Access and Print poster or resource, which explains how an individual can access and print their enhanced vaccine certificate with QR code on one of your computers
3. A How to Assist resource for your office, which explains how to assist an individual to access and print their enhanced vaccine certificate with QR code.

It is recommended that individuals access and print their enhanced vaccine certificate with QR code themselves where possible in order to protect personal privacy and information.

However, if assistance is required from library employees or volunteers, it is recommended to:

- ensure that the individual being served understands that they must consent to sharing their personal information for the purpose of printing off a copy of their vaccination record.
- not retain any personal health information, and make it clear to the individual that information will not be retained
- not keep a visitor log of individuals who have requested service
- remind the individual to delete personal health information, and log out when completed.
- Keep the above instructions at the computer station and around the office (see resources attached).

Thank you for your cooperation and for joining our shared commitment to work together to protect the health and well-being of Ontarians.

Sincerely,

Katherine Kelly Gatten  
Assistant Deputy Minister

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12 janvier 2022

**Note de service**

**Destinataires :** Tous les chefs de la direction des bibliothèques publiques de l'Ontario

**Expéditeur :** Katherine Kelly Gatten, Sous-ministre adjoint

**Objet :** Preuve de vaccination contre la COVID-19

---

À l'intention des partenaires communautaires,

Nous souhaitons vous remercier de votre soutien aux Ontariennes et Ontariens pour accéder à leur preuve de vaccination.

Afin de protéger les progrès de la province dans sa lutte contre la COVID-19 et réduire la propagation du variant Omicron, le gouvernement met en place des mesures pour encourager la vaccination. Nous aimerions votre soutien pour aider la communauté à obtenir leur certificat de vaccination amélioré avec un code QR.

Le 22 septembre 2021, le gouvernement de l'Ontario a requis qu'une preuve de vaccination soit présentée dans certains lieux pour aider à augmenter le taux de vaccination, protéger les particuliers au sein des lieux à haut risque et maintenir les entreprises ouvertes. Des [règles](#) et [directives](#) ont été publiées pour soutenir les entreprises et organismes à mettre en place les exigences relatives à la preuve de vaccination.

Depuis le 22 octobre, les Ontariennes et Ontariens peuvent prouver leur statut vaccinal grâce à un certificat de vaccination amélioré avec un code QR, qui est plus sûr et facile à utiliser lorsqu'il est balayé et vérifié par l'application VérifOntario.

Le 10 décembre, l'Ontario a annoncé un certain nombre de mesures, y compris qu'à compter du 4 janvier 2022, il sera obligatoire pour les particuliers d'utiliser le certificat de vaccination amélioré avec un code QR et pour les entreprises d'utiliser l'application VérifOntario dans les lieux où une preuve de vaccination est exigée. Le code QR peut être utilisé numériquement ou en imprimant une copie papier. Les particuliers peuvent télécharger leur certificat de vaccination amélioré avec un code QR en visitant le site Web [Ontario.ca/obtenir-preuve](https://ontario.ca/obtenir-preuve). Il n'est pas nécessaire pour les particuliers de télécharger ou imprimer une nouvelle copie de leur certificat de vaccination après avoir reçu une dose de rappel, à moins qu'ils aient besoin d'un

En outre, dès le 15 décembre 2021, l'Ontario a mis en place un [nouveau processus](#)



pour offrir un certificat amélioré de vaccination contre la COVID-19 avec un code QR pour les particuliers qui détiennent une exemption médicale admissible ou qui participent à un [essai clinique de vaccin contre la COVID-19 actif autorisé par Santé Canada](#). à compter du 10 janvier 2022, seulement ces certificats améliorés seront acceptés.

À compter du mercredi 5 janvier 2022, pendant un minimum de 21 jours, la province est passée temporairement à une version modifiée de la [deuxième étape de son Plan d'action pour le déconfinement](#), en réponse à l'augmentation alarmante du nombre d'hospitalisations liées à la COVID-19 due à la transmissibilité accrue du variant Omicron. Ce changement temporaire affecte de nombreux lieux où une preuve de vaccination est exigée.

Nous demandons aux bibliothèques, centres communautaires et autres espaces communautaires à fournir des services pour aider les Ontariennes et Ontariens à accéder à leur certificat amélioré avec un code QR et à l'imprimer.

Il est possible que plus de personnes sollicitent votre aide lorsque les nouvelles mesures seront en vigueur, c'est pourquoi nous souhaitons partager de nouveau les ressources suivantes pour aider vos bureaux à soutenir les Ontariennes et Ontariens :

4. Une affiche « Imprimer ici » à installer à la fenêtre de votre bureau;
5. Une affiche sur l'accès à la preuve de vaccination et son impression qui explique comment une personne peut accéder à sa preuve de vaccination et l'imprimer avec l'un de vos ordinateurs;
6. Une ressource pour votre bureau qui explique comment aider une personne à accéder à sa preuve de vaccination et à l'imprimer.

Il est recommandé que les personnes accèdent à leur preuve de vaccination et l'impriment elles-mêmes dans la mesure du possible afin de protéger leur vie privée et leurs renseignements personnels.

Cependant, si elles ont besoin d'aide de la part d'employés ou de bénévoles de la bibliothèque, les mesures suivantes sont recommandées :

- S'assurer que la personne que l'on sert comprend qu'elle doit consentir à partager ses renseignements personnels dans le but d'imprimer une copie de son dossier de vaccination;
- Ne conserver aucun renseignement personnel sur la santé et préciser à la personne que les renseignements ne seront pas conservés;
- Ne pas tenir de registre des personnes qui ont demandé un service;
- Rappeler à la personne de supprimer les renseignements personnels sur la santé et de fermer la session une fois qu'elle a terminé;
- Afficher les instructions ci-dessus au poste informatique et à proximité du bureau (voir les ressources ci-jointes).

Nous vous remercions de votre collaboration et de votre engagement commun à travailler ensemble à protéger la santé et le bien-être de la population ontarienne.

Veillez agréer l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

Katherine Kelly Gatten  
Sous-ministre adjoint

Ministry of Health

# COVID-19 Integrated Testing & Case, Contact and Outbreak Management Interim Guidance: Omicron Surge

Version 1.0 – December 30, 2021

This guidance document provides basic information only. It is not intended to provide medical advice, diagnosis or treatment or legal advice.

In the event of any conflict between this guidance document and any orders or directives issued by the Minister of Health or the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH), the order or directive prevails.

- Please check the Ministry of Health (MOH) [COVID-19 website](#) regularly for updates to this document, mental health resources, and other information,
- Please check the [Directives, Memorandums and Other Resources](#) page regularly for the most up to date directives.

## Background

In response to the evolving situation related to the COVID-19 Omicron (B.1.1.529) variant of concern (VOC), the Ministry of Health is providing updated guidance on testing, and case, contact and outbreak management. This guidance is to be used as an interim update and where conflicting, superseding all other guidance documents on the Ministry's [website](#). The number of Omicron cases is rising rapidly in Ontario such that individuals with symptoms indicative of COVID-19 can be presumed to be infected with COVID-19 to initiate timely self-isolation and prevent transmission in the community. Ontario continues to strive to mitigate morbidity and mortality from COVID-19, and to mitigate impacts on hospitals and the broader health system, and on society overall.

Surveillance reporting on VOCs in Ontario can be found on the [Public Health Ontario webpage](#).

# Prioritization Molecular<sup>1</sup> Testing for COVID-19 Infection

The following people are eligible for molecular testing (PCR or rapid molecular testing):

- [Symptomatic](#)<sup>2</sup> people who fall into one of the following groups:
  - Hospitalized patients
  - Patients seeking emergency medical care, at the discretion of the treating clinician
  - Patient-facing healthcare workers
  - Staff, volunteers, residents/inpatients, essential care providers, and visitors in hospitals and congregate living settings, including Long-Term Care, retirement homes, First Nation elder care lodges, group homes, shelters, hospices, temporary foreign worker settings, and correctional institutions
- Symptomatic outpatients for whom COVID-19 treatment is being considered
  - includes those 70 and older who have a risk factor including obesity (BMI  $\geq 30$ ), dialysis or stage 5 kidney disease (eGFR  $< 15$  mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>), diabetes, cerebral palsy, intellectual disability of any severity, sickle cell disease, receiving active cancer treatment, solid organ or stem cell transplant recipients, or 50 and older if First Nations, Inuit, or Métis with any of those risk factors<sup>3</sup>
- Symptomatic people who are underhoused or homeless
- Symptomatic elementary and secondary students and education staff who have received a PCR self-collection kit through their school
- Symptomatic/asymptomatic people who are from First Nation, Inuit, and Métis communities and individuals travelling into these communities for work
- Symptomatic /asymptomatic people on admission/transfer to or from hospital or congregate living setting
- High risk contacts and asymptomatic/symptomatic people in the context of

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<sup>1</sup> Positive results from molecular point-of-care testing results should be considered confirmed cases **and no longer require a PCR confirmatory test.**

<sup>2</sup> Symptomatic is defined as having at least one symptom or sign from the [COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms](#).

<sup>3</sup> <https://covid19-sciencetable.ca/sciencebrief/clinical-practice-guideline-summary-recommended-drugs-and-biologics-in-adult-patients-with-covid-19-version-6-0/>

confirmed or suspected outbreaks in highest risk<sup>4</sup> settings, including hospitals, long-term care, retirement homes, other congregate living settings and institutions, and other settings as directed by the local public health unit

- Individuals, and one accompanying caregiver, with written prior approval for out-of-country medical services from the General Manager, OHIP
- Asymptomatic testing in hospital, long-term care, retirement homes and other congregate living settings and institutions as per provincial guidance and/or Directives, or as directed by public health units.

## Testing Guidance for Specific Settings and Populations

### Prior to Scheduled Surgery

Testing prior to a scheduled (non-urgent/emergent) surgery in a hospital or other surgical setting (e.g. independent health facility, etc.):

- Testing prior to surgery will be determined by COVID-19 Regional Steering Committee/Response Table, and may vary across Ontario regions.
  - For areas with low community transmission of COVID-19 (<10 cases per 100,000/week), testing prior to a scheduled surgical procedure is not required. In areas where community transmission of COVID-19 is not low (>10 cases per 100,000/week), any patient with a scheduled surgical procedure requiring a general anaesthetic may be tested with PCR 24-48 hours prior to procedure date.
  - Regardless of vaccination status, patients should only go out for essential reasons (e.g. work, school) for as close to 10 days prior to a scheduled procedure as is feasible.
  - In the event of a positive test result, the scheduled non-urgent/emergent procedure should be delayed (at the discretion of the clinician) for a period of at least 10 days and until cleared by public health and/or infection control.

### Newborns

Newborns born to people with confirmed COVID-19 at the time of birth should be tested for COVID-19 within 24 hours of delivery, regardless of symptoms.

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<sup>4</sup> Highest risk settings include hospitals, Long-Term Care, retirement homes, congregate living settings (see page 10-11). All other settings would be considered non-highest risk.

If parent testing is pending at the time of mother-baby discharge, then follow-up must be ensured such that if maternal testing is positive the baby is tested in a timely manner. If bringing the baby back for testing is impractical, the baby should be tested prior to discharge.

Newborns currently in the NICU/SCN born to mothers with confirmed COVID-19 at the time of birth should be tested within the first 24 hours after birth and, if the initial test is negative, again at 48 hours after birth, regardless of symptoms.

Newborns <48 hours old at time of transfer born to individuals who are asymptomatic and screen negative for symptoms do not require PCR testing on hospital admission/transfer.

## People with Cancer

Routine testing of all asymptomatic patients prior to radiation or systemic treatment is **not** recommended. Rather, a regional approach should be adopted after reviewing local epidemiology by regional COVID-19 response committees. In regions with low community transmission of COVID-19 (<10 cases per 100,000/week), routine testing prior to treatment is not required but should be done at the discretion of the treating clinician if they feel it is necessary or indicated, in particular when:

- High dose multidrug chemotherapy is planned
- Radiation treatment will involve treatment of lung tissue
- Treatment is planned in patients with a new ground glass lung opacity
- Treatment (radiation or systemic) is planned in patients who are significantly immunosuppressed

## Hematopoietic Cell Therapy

All patients booked for hematopoietic cell therapy should be tested 24-48 hours before their appointment apart from exceptional circumstances, e.g., Priority A case requiring urgent same day treatment.

## Hemodialysis Patients

### Testing for symptomatic in-centre hemodialysis patients

- Test symptomatic patients using a low-threshold approach, incorporating any symptoms within the [COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms](#).
- Patients with persistent respiratory symptoms or fever despite a negative test should be managed on Droplet and Contact Precautions and be retested as appropriate, based on clinical judgment.

## Testing for in-centre hemodialysis patients who reside in Long-Term Care /retirement homes or other congregate living settings

- Periodic testing of asymptomatic patients from Long-Term Care/retirement homes is not recommended where the home does not have known cases.
- Periodic testing of hemodialysis patients in Long-Term Care/retirement homes with known cases or outbreaks should continue regularly until the outbreak is considered cleared.
- If a Long-Term Care/retirement home patient comes from a home where there is currently a COVID-19 outbreak or one is subsequently declared and the patient becomes a laboratory-confirmed case, decisions around additional testing of asymptomatic patients and staff should be left to the discretion of local infection prevention and control as testing decisions will be informed by the size and layout of the unit.
- Testing for in-centre hemodialysis patients who reside in Long-Term Care/retirement homes to be conducted in the hemodialysis unit, or in accordance with hospital and local public health protocols, if not already done in the home.

## Testing for hemodialysis patients in hemodialysis unit where outbreak declared

- If an outbreak is declared in a hemodialysis unit, test all patients in that unit regardless of whether they are symptomatic.
- Retesting should be directed by the outbreak management team overseeing the outbreak, in collaboration with local public health.

# Rapid Antigen Testing

There are several distinct uses for rapid antigen tests (RATs), including:

### 1) Screen testing

- Screen testing is frequent, systematic testing of people who are asymptomatic and without known exposure to a COVID-19 case with the goal of identifying cases that are pre-symptomatic or asymptomatic.
- Screen testing with RATs involves routine testing one or more times per week. Individuals in non-highest risk settings participating in routine asymptomatic RAT testing who have a positive result **do not require a PCR/rapid molecular confirmatory test.**

### 2) For people with symptoms (see [page 7](#))

### 3) For test-to-work purposes (see [page 14](#))

#### **4) One-off, non-routine/infrequent asymptomatic testing**

Positive RAT results do not require PCR/rapid molecular confirmatory testing. If an asymptomatic individual without a known exposure to a COVID-19 case decides to complete a RAT outside of routine screening programs, for example prior to a social event/gathering/visit in a non-highest risk setting, then they should complete it as close to the event as possible (e.g. on the same day, ideally within a few hours of the event) and understand important limitations to a negative RAT result including:

- RATs have low sensitivity for COVID-19 in people who are asymptomatic and without a known exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19.
- People infected with COVID-19 may test negative for several days before testing positive on RAT. Therefore, a negative test may represent a false negative and the infection status of the individual may change within hours of taking the test.
- Those with a negative one-off RAT should still follow existing public health measures including masking and limiting contacts.



# Public Health Advice for Symptomatic Individuals

**As molecular testing is prioritized for those at increased risk of severe outcomes and those living and working in highest risk settings, molecular testing is no longer being recommended for all individuals in the community with symptoms compatible with COVID-19. See page 9 for a flow chart of recommendations.**

- **Symptomatic individuals** who are ineligible for PCR/rapid molecular testing are advised to self-isolate as soon as possible after symptom onset.
  - If symptoms include any symptom from the list below, the individual is presumed to have COVID-19 infection and is advised to self-isolate.
    - If the individual is [fully vaccinated](#) OR is a child under the age of 12 years old, they should self-isolate for at least 5 days from symptom onset AND until their symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms), whichever is longer in duration.
    - If the individual is not fully vaccinated and is 12 years old or older, or if they are immune compromised, they should self-isolate for 10 days from symptom onset AND until their symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms) and they are afebrile, whichever is longer in duration.
  - **The symptoms include:**
    - Fever and/or chills; OR
    - Cough; OR
    - Shortness of breath; OR
    - Decrease or loss of taste or smell; OR
    - **Two or more of:**
      - runny nose/nasal congestion
      - headache
      - extreme fatigue
      - sore throat
      - muscle aches/joint pain
      - gastrointestinal symptoms (i.e. vomiting or diarrhea)
  - If symptoms do not include any of the above, the individual is less likely to have COVID-19 infection and is advised to self-isolate until symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms).

- **All household members** of the symptomatic individual, regardless of vaccination status, should stay at home while the symptomatic individual is isolating (for at least 5 days from symptom onset AND until they are afebrile and their symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms)) due to the high rate of transmission within households. If they develop symptoms, they should follow isolation directions for symptomatic individuals and if eligible for testing, seek testing.
- If a **RAT** is available to the person with any of the above listed symptoms, RAT may be used to assess the likelihood that symptoms are related to COVID-19.
  - A **positive RAT** is highly indicative that the individual has COVID-19, and the individual is required to self-isolate.
    - If the individual is fully vaccinated or is a child under 12 years of age, they should self-isolate for 5 days from symptom onset and until their symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms), whichever is longer in duration.
    - If the individual is not fully vaccinated and is 12 years old or older or if they are immune compromised, they should self-isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms, or from the date of their test (whichever was earlier).
    - In the community non-high risk setting positive RATs do NOT need to be confirmed by PCR/rapid molecular test.
    - Positive RAT tests do NOT need to be reported to the public health unit.
    - **All household members** of the positive RAT individual, regardless of vaccination status, should stay at home while the symptomatic individual is isolating (for at least 5 days from symptom onset AND until they are afebrile and their symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms)) due to the high rate of transmission within households. If they develop symptoms they should follow isolation directions for symptomatic individuals and if eligible for testing, seek testing.
  - If two consecutive RATs, separated by 24-48 hours, are both **negative**, the symptomatic individual is less likely to have COVID-19 infection, and the individual is advised to self-isolate until symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal

symptoms). The household members of the symptomatic individual with two negative tests may also discontinue self-isolation.

- If the symptomatic individual works in a **highest risk setting**, they should avoid work for 10 days from symptom onset.
  - If RAT is available, these individuals can return to work on day 7 from the date of symptom onset or positive test (molecular or PCR) (whichever is earlier) if they meet the following criteria:
    - Have two consecutive negative RATs at least 24 hours apart (e.g. day 6 and 7) AND
    - Their symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms).

## You have symptoms and are concerned you may have COVID-19. Now what?

This guidance does not apply to individuals who live, work, volunteer or are admitted in a highest risk setting\*

**Do you have any of these symptoms: Fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath, decrease/loss of smell and taste?**

No

Yes

**Do you have two or more of these symptoms?:**

- Sore throat
- Headache
- Extreme fatigue
- Runny nose/nasal congestion
- Muscle aches/joint pain
- GI Symptoms (i.e. vomiting or diarrhea)

No

Yes

- It is less likely that you have COVID-19 infection.
- Self-isolate until your symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours (48 hours for gastrointestinal symptoms).
- Your household members do not need to self-isolate.

- It is highly likely that you have a COVID-19 infection.
- You must [self-isolate](#) immediately:
  - For at least **5 days** from your symptom onset and until your symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms) whichever is longer in duration if you are:
    - 12 years of age or older AND fully vaccinated.
    - 11 years old or younger, regardless of your vaccination status
  - For **10 days** from your symptom onset if you are:
    - 12 years of age or older AND either partially vaccinated or unvaccinated.
    - Immune compromised, regardless of your age
- All of your household members (regardless of their vaccination status) must self-isolate while you are self-isolating.
- Most individuals do not need a COVID-19 test. If you are in the eligible individual list, get PCR test, rapid molecular test or rapid antigen tests (if you have access). If testing is not available, you must fulfill the self-isolation.
- If your symptoms worsen, seek advice from Telehealth or your health care provider.
- Notify your workplace.

\*Highest risk settings/individuals include hospitals, Long-Term Care, retirement homes, congregate living settings, and health care workers providing care to immunocompromised people.

**Note:** In the context of Omicron, individuals who are previously positive in the last 90 days and not fully vaccinated are **not** considered equivalent to fully vaccinated.

## Updated Case and Contact Management for All COVID-19 Cases

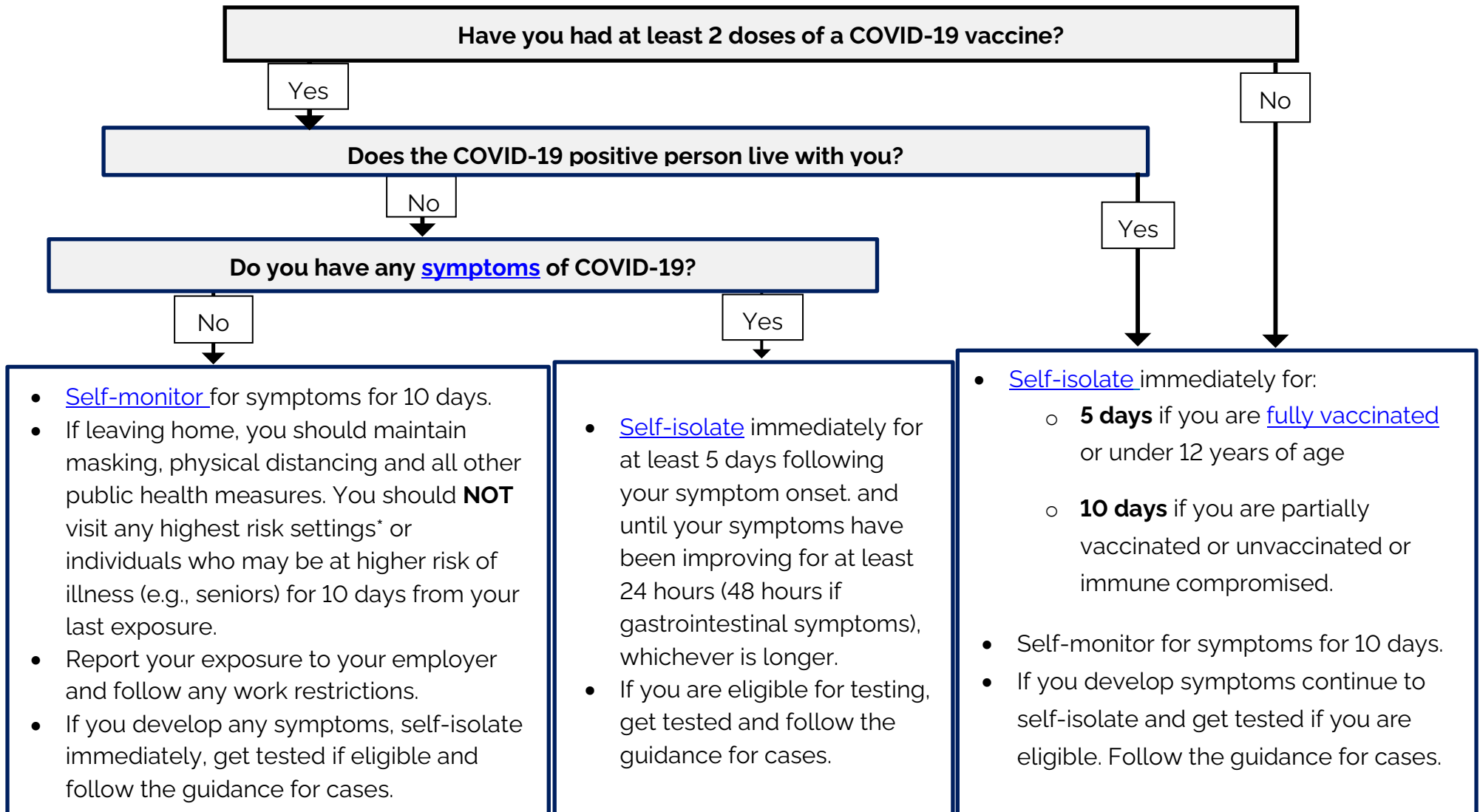
- Individuals who have tested positive on a COVID-19 test (PCR, rapid molecular, or rapid antigen) should self-isolate immediately.
  - If the individual is 12 years of age or older AND either partially vaccinated, or unvaccinated they must self-isolate for **10 days** from the onset of symptoms, or from the date of their test (whichever came sooner).
  - If the individual is immune compromised (regardless of age and vaccination status) they must self-isolate for **10 days** from the onset of symptoms, or from the date of their test (whichever came sooner).
  - If the individual is 12 years of age or older AND fully vaccinated they must self-isolate for at least **5 days** from symptom onset and until their symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms) whichever is longer in duration
  - If the individual is under 12 years of age (regardless of their vaccination status), they must self-isolate for at least **5 days** from symptom onset and until their symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms) whichever is longer in duration
- Individuals who are presumed to have COVID-19 based on their symptoms (see flow chart on page 10) should also self-isolate as per the above criteria.
- All household members (regardless of their vaccination status) will need to self-isolate while the case is self-isolating.
- People who test positive on PCR or rapid molecular tests may be contacted by their local public health unit or the provincial case and contact management team.
- All test-confirmed COVID-19 cases (i.e. people who test positive on PCR, rapid molecular, or rapid antigen) should notify high risk contacts of their exposure. High risk contacts include:
  - Anyone with whom the COVID-19 positive person came into close contact within the 48 hours prior to symptom onset if symptomatic or 48 hours prior to the test date if asymptomatic, and until the positive person started self-isolating.
  - Close contact means you were in close proximity (less than 2 meters) to them for at least 15 minutes or for multiple short periods of time without appropriate measures as masking and use of personal

protective equipment (as per [Management of Cases and Contacts of COVID-19 in Ontario](#)).

- Other high risk contacts as advised by public health.
- Cohort based dismissals in school will no longer be used and case and contact management in school will be updated to reflect the changes in this guidance.
- See page 13 for a flow chart of directions for high risk contacts that are not associated with the highest risk settings.

## You've been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 on PCR, rapid molecular, or rapid antigen test. Now what?

This guidance does not apply to individuals who live, work, volunteer or are admitted in a highest risk setting\*



\*Highest risk settings include hospitals, Long-Term Care, retirement homes, health care workers providing care to immunocompromised, congregate living settings

**Note:** In the context of Omicron, individuals who are previously positive in the last 90 days and not fully vaccinated are **not** considered equivalent to fully vaccinated.

## COVID-19 Cases in Highest Risk Settings

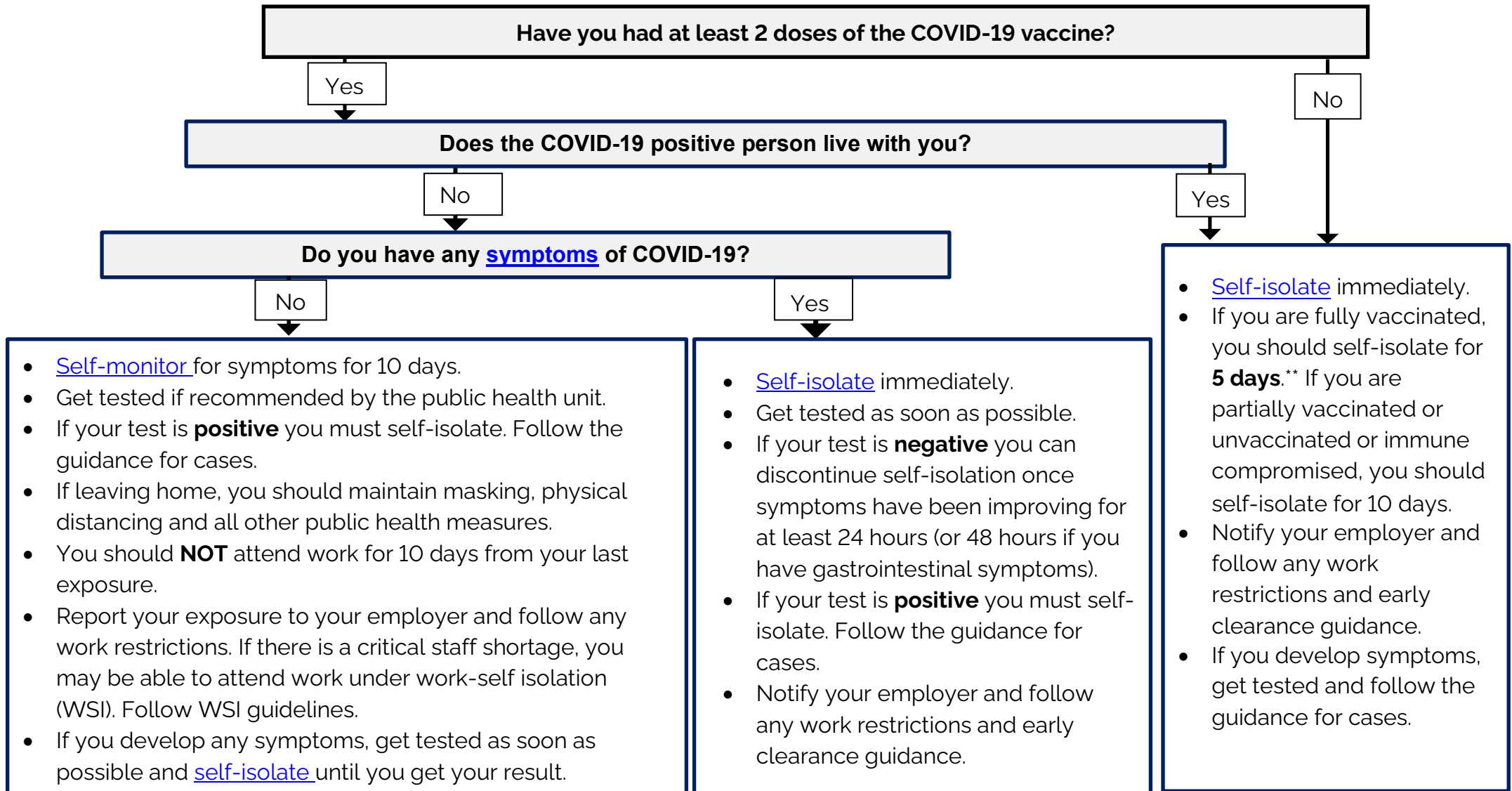
- If the individual who has tested positive on a PCR test lives, works, attends, volunteers or is admitted in any of the highest risk settings below, the local public health unit or the provincial case and contact management staff will follow-up with the case and high risk contacts in those highest risk settings.
- Highest risk settings include:
  - Hospitals and health care settings, including complex continuing care facilities and acute care facilities
  - Congregate living settings, e.g. long-term care homes, retirement homes, First Nation elder care lodges, group homes, shelters, hospices, temporary foreign worker settings, and correctional institutions
  - First Nations, Inuit, Métis communities

## High Risk Contacts in Highest Risk Settings

- High risk contacts who **live** in a highest risk setting should self-isolate regardless of vaccination status.
- Asymptomatic high risk contacts who **work/volunteer/attend** a highest risk setting can follow [guidance for contacts](#) regarding self-monitoring/self-isolation in the community (i.e., outside of the highest risk setting), unless otherwise directed by the public health unit.
  - Individuals who work in the highest risk settings above should avoid work for 10 days.
- Regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, high risk contacts should not be working in highest risk settings, unless required for critical work shortages (see below for [work-self-isolation guidance](#)).
- High risk contacts in the highest risk setting with no outside exposure risk are recommended to test immediately, at PHU discretion (e.g., as part of an outbreak investigation), or if they develop symptoms.



**You've been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 on PCR, rapid molecular, or rapid antigen test and you work in a highest risk setting.\* Now what?**



\*Highest risk settings include paramedics, hospitals, Long-Term Care, retirement homes, health care workers providing care to immunocompromised, congregate living settings

\*\* After 5 days of self-isolation, do NOT attend work until 10 days from your last exposure. Report your exposure to your employer and follow any work restrictions.

**Note:** In the context of Omicron, individuals who are previously positive in the last 90 days and not fully vaccinated are **not** considered equivalent to fully vaccinated.

## Management of Critical Staffing Shortages in highest risk settings

- **Test-to-work** is a strategy to support work-self isolation to meet critical workforce needs for highest risk settings, in which staff are able to return to work when they would otherwise be on self-isolation at home.
  - While the safest approach is to continue self-isolating, all layers of protection in the hierarchy of controls should be optimized to reduce the risk of having an exposed individual in the workplace.
  - Staff who are cases (i.e. have tested positive or symptomatic) should be considered only in the **critical** staffing shortage situation as per guidance.
- Staff who are critical to operations in these settings who are household contacts of cases, or have been otherwise advised to self-isolate, may return to work on work self-isolation if: they
  - remain **asymptomatic; AND**
  - **are actively screened ahead of each shift; AND**
  - are **fully vaccinated** ;AND
  - **continuously test negative on required testing (see table 1)**
- Alternatively, two negative RATs on days 6 and 7 collected 24 hours apart is sufficient to allow early return to work on day 7.
- In the critical staffing shortage when health and safety of the public is concerned, staff who are cases (symptomatic or tested positive) may return to work on work self-isolation, if they
  - remain asymptomatic; AND
  - are fully vaccinated; AND
  - HCW must wear fit-tested, seal-checked N95 respirators at all time during work. Staff working along side HCW must also wear fit tested N95 respirators at all times.
  - Non-HCW must wear a well fitted medical mask or KN95 mask (if available). Staff working together must maintain physical distancing at all times and preferably wear a well fitted medical mask or KN95 mask (if available).

- Work self-isolation would ideally only begin on day 7 after two negative RATs at least 24 hours apart (i.e., day 6 and 7).
- The fewest number of high risk exposed healthcare workers should be returned to work to allow for business continuity and safe operations in clinical and non-clinical areas.
- Those who have received 3 doses should be prioritized to return before those who received only 2 doses.
- HCW on work self-isolation should avoid working with immunocompromised individuals.
- For **health care settings only**, the frequency of RAT testing may be determined by employer occupational health and safety.

**Table 1: Testing Requirements for Work Self-Isolation**

Nature of exposure	Work self-isolation	Testing Requirements
No ongoing exposure to case	10 days since last exposure	<b>Initial PCR test and daily RAT</b> <b>OR</b> <b>RAT on day 6 and 7 for return on day 7</b>
Ongoing household exposure	Work self-isolation for 10 days from last exposure to the case in their period of contagiousness (up to 15 days from the date on which the household case became symptomatic or from the date of the positive test of the household case).	<b>Initial PCR test and daily RAT</b> <b>OR</b> <b>RAT on day 9 and 10 for return on day 11</b>
Ongoing outbreak exposure	Work self-isolation until 10 days after exposure to the last case (presuming ongoing exposure during the outbreak).	Follow PHU guidelines for RAT and PCR/rapid molecular testing as part of recommended outbreak management testing.

**From:** [RRPB, Mail \(MECP\)](#)  
**To:** [Cindy Pigeau](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Changes to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Advanced Recycling Facilities & Webinar Invitation  
**Date:** Monday, January 17, 2022 1:01:25 PM

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Good Afternoon,

I'm writing to advise you of proposed changes that will make it easier for advanced recycling facilities to obtain their environmental approval when they meet high standards by more closely aligning the environmental assessment process for these projects with those that process and recycle waste.

Advanced recycling and energy recovery technologies can help recover valuable resources from Ontario's waste and keep it out of landfills. They use heat and pressure to break down hard-to-recycle plastics and other waste into materials that can be reused to create new products or replace fossil fuels. That is why Ontario is committed to supporting companies that want to implement advanced recycling technologies and support a greener, cleaner future.

We recognize the advanced recycling proposal may be of interest to you, and are seeking your input so that we can best support innovation while maintaining strict environmental oversight. You can view the proposal and a plain language description on the Environmental Registry of Ontario: [Environmental assessment requirements for advanced recycling facilities under the Environmental Assessment Act \(EAA\) | Environmental Registry of Ontario](#)

The proposal will be posted until February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 for a 45-day comment period.

As part of the proposal, we are also proposing to update Part B of the Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Waste Management Projects to require that information be included in the Environmental Screening Report for advanced recycling projects.

This proposal is associated with the proposal to move to a [project list approach](#) under the Environmental Assessment Act. The project list approach will better align Ontario with other jurisdictions across Canada, including the federal government, who use project lists to determine the types of projects for which an EA must be completed. Under the project list proposal, most project types that currently require a comprehensive EA will continue to need one.

The ministry will also be hosting an online webinar where we will provide an overview of the new environmental assessment requirements for advanced recycling and field any initial questions. The webinar will occur on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, where more information can be shared and provide an opportunity for discussion. The meeting will be between 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. using Microsoft Teams. We can also accommodate access by phone/teleconference if preferred.

To register, please email [RRPB.Mail@Ontario.ca](mailto:RRPB.Mail@Ontario.ca) no later than February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. Due to capacity limitations, attendance for the webinar will be capped and places will be provided on a first-come basis. Webinar log-in details will be provided to

registrants in advance of the session.

Please feel free to forward this invitation to others you believe may be interested in receiving more information about the ministry's new environmental assessment requirements for advanced recycling, or who might be interested in attending the webinar to learn more and discuss the proposal.

We look forward to your participation and input on this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Charles O'Hara  
Director, Resource Recovery Policy Branch  
Environmental Policy Division  
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

**From:** [Aleysha Blake](#)  
**To:** [Cindy Pigeau](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Ontario Cuts Electricity Rates to Help Workers, Families and Small Businesses  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 9:02:51 AM

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**From:** Kinga Surma [mailto:kinga.surmaco@pc.ola.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 8:19 AM  
**To:** Aleysha Blake <administration@calvintownship.ca>  
**Subject:** Ontario Cuts Electricity Rates to Help Workers, Families and Small Businesses



The Ontario government is providing 21 days of electricity-rate relief to support families and workers spending more time at home, as well as small businesses, consistent with the length of time the province is in modified Step Two public health measures.

**As of January 18, electricity prices have been lowered to the off-peak rate of 8.2 cents per kilowatt-hour -- less than half the on-peak rate -- 24 hours per day.**

Electricity customers won't have to do anything to benefit from the rate cut, it will be applied automatically to both Time-of-Use and Tiered rate plans on the bills of residential customers, small businesses and farms who pay regulated rates set by the Ontario Energy Board (OEB).

Implementation of the off-peak rate builds on existing programs introduced by the government to reduce electricity prices including the [Ontario Electricity Rebate](#) (OER), which provides a 17 per cent rebate on the subtotal of the electricity bill of eligible customers including households, small businesses and farms. Eligible customers will continue to benefit from the OER while off-peak pricing is in place.

The government is further supporting the health and safety of Ontarians during this difficult time by ensuring that natural gas and electricity utilities disconnection bans remain in place until April 30, 2022.

The [Ontario Business Costs Rebate Program](#) provides eligible businesses that are required to close or reduce capacity with rebate payments for a portion of the property tax and energy costs they incur while subject to public health measures in response to the Omicron variant.

The [Low-Income Energy Assistance Program \(LEAP\)](#) is also available to Ontarians struggling with their energy bills. LEAP provides a one-time grant towards electricity or natural gas bills to eligible consumers who are behind on payments. To supply additional relief the OEB recently increased the grant amount so eligible consumers can now get **up to \$1000** for their electricity bills (**\$1200** if their home is electrically

heated) and **\$1000** for their natural gas bills.

Best Regards,

Office of MPP Kinga Surma  
Etobicoke Centre



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January 19, 2022

**Re: Support for Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services (MPSSAS) Receive Increased and Sustainable Provincial Funding (Mayor, G. Smith)**

At its meeting of December 22, 2021, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motions 21-GC-317, regarding the Support for Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services (MPSSAS) Receive Increased and Sustainable Provincial Funding, as follows:

“WHEREAS the Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services (MPSSAS) has provided prevention education, advocacy and support for survivors of recent or historical sexual violence in the area since 1993;

AND WHEREAS the number of survivors needing access to crisis counselling and long-term therapy programs has multiplied four (4) times since 1993;

AND WHEREAS ongoing underfunding of MPSSAS and the sexual assault services sector has reduced the number of resources available to provide these services due to highly specialized skill requirements that are unmatched by low wages and benefits relative to other mental health funded positions;

AND WHEREAS the current COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in isolated survivors, unable to leave abusive situations due to pressures on housing and shelters, requiring the services of MPSSAS;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT increased and sustainable provincial funding for MPSSAS and other sexual assault services centres be supported for priority consideration by the Provincial Government and its agencies.”

In accordance with Council’s direction I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for you reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,



Lori McDonald  
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

1000 Taylor Court  
Bracebridge, ON  
P1L 1R6 Canada

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Télééc. : 416 325-7644

*Le français suit l'anglais.*

January 18, 2022

Dear Municipal Treasurer / Clerk-Treasurer:

I am writing to advise you of a number of important property tax decisions for the 2022 taxation year. Regulations implementing the property tax policy decisions have been enacted and will be available on the e-laws website at [www.ontario.ca/laws](http://www.ontario.ca/laws).

**Reassessment**

As announced in the *2021 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review*, property assessments for the 2022 and 2023 tax years will continue to be based on the same valuation date that was used for 2021. This will maintain stability for municipalities and taxpayers.

The input that has been received during the Property Assessment and Taxation Review will help to inform decisions regarding future reassessments. The government remains open to receiving further advice related to property assessment accuracy and stability.

**Education Property Tax Rates**

Education property tax rates for 2022 will remain unchanged from the previous year as assessments continue to be based on the same valuation date used for 2021. This means that the residential education tax rate will remain at 0.153 per cent and the business education tax (BET) rate reductions implemented in 2021 will be maintained. BET rates have been reduced to 0.88 for 95 per cent of Ontario municipalities. The 2022 BET rates for your municipality are attached.

BET rates for certain properties where municipalities are permitted to retain the education portion of payment in lieu of taxes (PILs) will also remain at the rates set for 2021. The government is aware of municipal concerns that the federal government may no longer make PIL payments at the BET rates prescribed in provincial regulation. The Province continues to encourage the federal government to make its payments at the prescribed rates, and has issued a [technical bulletin](#) and corresponding amendment to the *Education Act* that provide the legislative clarity for the federal government to pay at the regulated rates. The Province also continues to support municipalities as they work together to ensure the federal government is fully aware that failure to make payments at the

regulated PIL rate would have a very negative financial impact on local Ontario communities.

### **Small Business Property Subclass**

Municipalities currently have the flexibility to target tax relief for small businesses through the adoption of the small business property subclass. As announced in the *2020 Budget*, the government will also consider matching municipal property tax reductions with education property tax reductions to provide further support for small businesses.

Municipalities may submit a request to the Minister for matching municipal reductions for 2022, with a copy to [info.propertytax@ontario.ca](mailto:info.propertytax@ontario.ca), by **March 31, 2022**. The submission may include the by-law outlining the program requirements; the estimated municipal tax relief to small businesses; a summary of the consultations held with business stakeholders; and the registry of eligible properties, if available.

### **Measures announced in the 2021 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review**

#### Small-Scale On-Farm Business Subclass

To enhance property tax programs that support farm businesses and to encourage their growth, the Province is increasing the assessment threshold for the small-scale on-farm business subclass. Currently, municipalities have the option of adopting this subclass which provides a reduced tax rate on the first \$50,000 of eligible assessment.

Starting in 2022, municipalities that adopt the small-scale on-farm business subclass will have the option to maintain the current assessment threshold of \$50,000 for municipal tax purposes, and they may also adopt a second subclass that would increase the amount of eligible assessment to \$100,000. The Province will apply a reduced business education tax rate to this increased \$100,000 threshold for all eligible properties, regardless of whether municipalities adopt the subclass.

It is anticipated that the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation will be identifying eligible properties and notifying affected property owners and municipalities by March 2022.

#### Brownfields Financial Tax Incentive Program

The Brownfields Financial Tax Incentive Program (BFTIP) incents the redevelopment of unproductive contaminated lands by providing for the reduction of municipal and education property taxes on brownfield sites that undergo rehabilitation.

To increase the incentive provided under this program, the Province will extend the period for offering matching education property tax assistance from the current three-year period to up to six years for business developments and up to ten years for residential developments.

These enhancements also support the objectives of *More Homes, More Choice: Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan*.

## **OPTA's Education Property Tax Reports and Financial Information Returns**

In 2020, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) updated the municipal Financial Information Return (FIR). The *Education Property Tax Reports (EPT Reports)* in the Online Property Tax Analysis (OPTA) system was updated accordingly with a new report reflecting the changes in the FIR.

Information from OPTA's new report is uploaded each spring to MMAH, when it is complete, to automatically update the FIR template for those municipalities that enter their EPT information, including payments and rebates and write-offs, in OPTA. This simplifies and streamlines the task of reporting in-year changes in the FIR.

For the 2021 FIR, eligible municipalities that enter the required information by April 4, 2022, will have their 2021 FIR template updated and available for download from MMAH, by May 2022. Municipalities can benefit from this option as this simplifies the completion of the FIR for municipalities and helps reduce the reporting burden.

### **Other Property Tax Decisions**

#### Municipal Property Tax Flexibility – Levy Restriction

Municipalities with property classes subject to the levy restriction will continue to have the flexibility to apply a municipal tax increase to those classes of up to 50 per cent of any increase applied to the residential class. For instance, a municipality levying a 2 per cent increase in residential taxes could raise taxes on any restricted class by up to 1 per cent. A full levy restriction applies to multi-residential properties with a tax ratio greater than 2.0 in 2021.

#### New Construction Classes for Education Property Tax Purposes

As a result of the 2021 BET rate reduction, which lowered rates below the previous new construction BET rates, the new construction property classes implemented for education tax purposes (properties with RTC codes of X, Y, Z and K) are no longer differentiated from the main business properties classes. To simplify and streamline the property tax system, properties in these classes will be returned to their respective main property classes. To ensure a smooth transition, this roll over will be reflected in the December 2022 Property Assessment Roll for the 2023 taxation year. This change would have no impact on property taxes paid by businesses.

If you have any questions related to these decisions, please contact Chris Broughton, Director of the Property Tax Policy Branch at [Chris.Broughton@ontario.ca](mailto:Chris.Broughton@ontario.ca) or 416-455-6307.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by*

Allan Doheny  
Assistant Deputy Minister

Provincial-Local Finance Division

**Municipality of Calvin**  
**2022 Business Education Tax (BET) Rates**

**BET Rate - Broad Classes**

<b>Business Property Class</b>	<b>2022 BET Rate</b>	<b>2022 New Construction BET Rate</b>	<b>2022 Payment-in-Lieu of Taxation (PILT) BET Rate</b>	<b>2022 New Construction PILT BET Rate</b>
<b>Commercial</b>	0.601963%	0.601963%	0.601963%	0.601963%
<b>Industrial</b>	0.880000%	0.880000%	0.980000%	0.980000%
<b>Pipeline</b>	0.880000%	n/a	0.907364%	n/a
<b>Landfill</b>	0.584711%	n/a	0.584711%	n/a
<b>Small-Scale On-Farm (Commercial &amp; Industrial)</b>	0.220000%	n/a	n/a	n/a

**Ministry of Finance**Provincial-Local  
Finance DivisionFrost Building North  
95 Grosvenor Street  
Toronto ON M7A 1Y7Tel.: 416 327-0264  
Fax.: 416 325-7644**Ministère des Finances**Division des relations provinciales-  
municipales en matière de financesÉdifice Frost nord  
95 rue Grosvenor  
Toronto ON M7A 1Y7Tél. : 416 327-0264  
Télééc. : 416 325-7644

Le 18 janvier 2022

À l'attention du trésorier/secrétaire trésorier municipal ou de la trésorière/secrétaire trésorière municipale

Je vous écris pour vous informer d'un nombre de décisions importantes à l'égard des impôts fonciers pour l'année d'imposition 2022. Des règlements ont été adoptés qui mettent en œuvre les décisions stratégiques relatives aux impôts fonciers. Vous pourrez les consulter dans le site Web des Lois-en-ligne à <https://www.ontario.ca/fr/lois>.

**Nouvelles évaluations**

Comme l'annonçait *Perspectives économiques et revue financière de l'Ontario 2021*, les évaluations foncières pour les années d'imposition 2022 et 2023 continueront d'être basées sur la même date d'évaluation que celle qui a été utilisée en 2021 afin d'offrir une certaine stabilité aux municipalités et aux contribuables.

Les commentaires reçus au cours de l'examen de l'évaluation foncière et de l'impôt foncier contribueront à éclairer les décisions concernant les nouvelles évaluations à l'avenir. Le gouvernement reste disposé à recevoir d'autres conseils concernant l'exactitude et la stabilité des évaluations foncières.

**Taux utilisés pour calculer les impôts fonciers scolaires**

Les taux utilisés pour calculer les impôts fonciers scolaires en 2022 demeureront les mêmes que pour l'année précédente puisque la date d'évaluation sera la même qu'en 2021. Ainsi, le taux utilisé pour le calcul des impôts fonciers scolaires résidentiels demeure à 0,153 %, et la réduction des taux utilisés pour le calcul des impôts fonciers scolaires applicables aux entreprises mise en œuvre en 2021 sera maintenue. Le taux pour le calcul des impôts fonciers scolaires applicables aux entreprises a été réduit à 0,88 pour 95 % des municipalités ontariennes. Les taux d'imposition scolaire de 2022 pour les entreprises de votre municipalité sont joints.

Les taux d'imposition scolaire applicables aux entreprises pour certains biens dans des municipalités où il est permis de retenir la partie scolaire du paiement en remplacement d'impôt (PERI) demeureront aussi aux mêmes taux qu'en 2021. La province est consciente que les municipalités s'inquiètent du fait que le gouvernement fédéral pourrait ne plus faire des PERI aux taux prescrits par les règlements provinciaux. La province

continue d'encourager le gouvernement fédéral à faire ses paiements aux taux prescrits, et a publié un [bulletin d'information](#) et apporté des modifications connexes à la Loi sur l'éducation afin d'éclaircir les dispositions législatives précisant les taux réglementés que devrait payer le gouvernement fédéral. La province continue aussi à soutenir les municipalités qui travaillent ensemble pour s'assurer que le gouvernement fédéral est conscient que le défaut de payer les PERI aux taux réglementés aurait un effet financier négatif sur les collectivités ontariennes.

### **Sous-catégorie de biens des petites entreprises**

Les municipalités ont actuellement la souplesse de cibler des allègements fiscaux pour les petites entreprises grâce à l'adoption d'une sous-catégorie de biens pour les petites entreprises. Comme l'annonçait le budget de 2020, le gouvernement envisagera aussi d'accorder des réductions des impôts fonciers municipaux équivalentes aux réductions des impôts fonciers scolaires pour aider davantage les petites entreprises.

Les municipalités peuvent demander au ministre de leur accorder des réductions municipales équivalentes en 2022 et envoyer une copie de la demande à [info.propertytax@ontario.ca](mailto:info.propertytax@ontario.ca) au plus tard le **31 mars 2022**. La demande peut inclure un règlement municipal qui décrit les exigences du programme; l'allègement approximatif des impôts fonciers municipaux qui sera accordé aux petites entreprises; un résumé des consultations avec des intervenants du milieu des affaires et le registre des biens admissibles, le cas échéant.

### **Mesures annoncées dans *Perspectives économiques et revue financière de l'Ontario 2021***

#### Sous-catégorie de petites entreprises agricoles

Afin d'améliorer les programmes d'impôts fonciers qui soutiennent les exploitations agricoles et encouragent leur expansion, la province augmente le seuil d'évaluation pour la sous-catégorie des petites entreprises agricoles. Actuellement, les municipalités ont la possibilité d'adopter cette sous-catégorie qui offre un taux d'imposition réduit sur la première tranche de 50 000 \$ d'évaluation admissible.

À partir de 2022, les municipalités qui adoptent la sous-catégorie des petites entreprises agricoles auront la possibilité de maintenir le seuil d'évaluation actuel de 50 000 \$ aux fins de l'impôt municipal et auront aussi la possibilité d'adopter une seconde sous-catégorie qui augmenterait le montant d'évaluation admissible à 100 000 \$. La province appliquera un taux réduit d'imposition scolaire applicable aux entreprises à ce nouveau seuil de 100 000 \$ pour tous les biens admissibles, peu importe si la municipalité adopte la sous-catégorie ou non.

On s'attend à ce que la Société d'évaluation foncière des sociétés détermine les biens admissibles et avise les propriétaires et municipalités touchés d'ici mars 2022.

## Programme d'encouragement fiscal et financier pour le nettoyage des friches contaminées

Le Programme d'encouragement fiscal et financier pour le nettoyage des friches contaminées favorise le réaménagement des terrains contaminés improductifs en accordant une réduction de l'impôt foncier municipal et scolaire sur les friches industrielles en cours de revitalisation.

Afin d'accroître l'incitatif offert dans le cadre de ce programme, la province prolongera la période d'aide de contrepartie au titre des impôts fonciers prélevés aux fins scolaires de trois à six ans pour les développements commerciaux et de dix ans pour les ensembles résidentiels.

Ces mesures viendront également appuyer les objectifs énoncés dans le document *Plus d'habitations, plus de choix : Plan d'action pour l'offre de logements de l'Ontario*.

### **Rapports d'information financière et rapports sur les impôts fonciers scolaires du Service en ligne de l'impôt foncier**

En 2020, le ministère des Affaires municipales et du Logement (MAML) a mis à jour le rapport d'information financière (RIF) municipal. Les rapports sur les impôts fonciers du Service en ligne de l'impôt foncier ont été mis à jour en conséquence avec un nouveau rapport qui tient compte des changements au RIF.

Les renseignements relatifs au nouveau rapport du Service en ligne de l'impôt foncier sont téléchargés chaque printemps lorsque le travail est terminé pour permettre au MAML d'automatiquement mettre à jour le modèle du RIF pour les municipalités qui entrent dans le Service en ligne de l'impôt foncier leurs informations relatives aux impôts fonciers scolaires, y compris les paiements, remises et radiations. Cette initiative simplifie et rationalise la tâche de déclarer les changements annuels dans le RIF.

Les municipalités admissibles qui entrent les informations requises pour le RIF de 2021 avant le 4 avril 2022 pourront télécharger leur modèle à jour du MAML au mois de mai 2022 au plus tard. Cette option est avantageuse pour les municipalités, car elle les aide à remplir leur RIF et réduit le fardeau de déclaration.

### **Autres décisions relatives aux impôts fonciers**

#### Souplesse relative aux impôts fonciers municipaux – seuils applicables aux restrictions

Les municipalités ayant des catégories de biens assujetties à des seuils applicables aux restrictions continueront d'avoir la souplesse d'appliquer une augmentation fiscale municipale à ces catégories qui équivaut à jusqu'à 50 % de toute augmentation appliquée à la catégorie résidentielle. Par exemple, une municipalité qui augmente les impôts résidentiels de 2 % pourrait augmenter les impôts par un maximum de 1 % pour toutes les catégories assujetties à des seuils applicables. Une restriction complète s'applique aux immeubles à logements multiples dont le ratio fiscal est supérieur à 2,0 en 2021.



## Catégories des nouvelles constructions aux fins des impôts fonciers scolaires

Comme résultat de la réduction du taux des impôts fonciers scolaires applicable aux entreprises en 2021 qui réduisait les taux en dessous des taux antérieurement applicables aux impôts fonciers scolaires pour les nouvelles constructions, les catégories des nouvelles constructions mises en œuvre à des fins d'impôts scolaires (les biens immobiliers portants les codes de catégorie d'impôt X, Y, Z et K) ne sont plus distinguées des principales catégories de biens commerciaux. Afin de simplifier et de rationaliser le régime des impôts fonciers, les biens inclus dans ces catégories seront remis dans leur catégorie principale respective. Afin d'assurer une transition harmonieuse, le rôle des évaluations foncières de décembre 2022 tiendra compte de ce transfert pour l'année d'imposition 2023. Ce changement n'aura aucun effet sur les impôts fonciers payés par les entreprises.

Si vous avez des questions au sujet de ces décisions, veuillez communiquer avec Chris Broughton, directeur de la Direction des politiques en matière d'impôt foncier à [Chris.Broughton@ontario.ca](mailto:Chris.Broughton@ontario.ca) ou au 416 455-6307.

Recevez mes sincères salutations.

*Original signé par*

Allan Doheny  
Sous-ministre adjoint  
Division des relations provinciales-municipales en matière de finances

**La municipalité de Calvin**  
**Taux d'impôt scolaire applicable aux entreprises (ISE) en 2022**

**Taux d'ISE - Grandes catégories**

<b>Catégorie des biens d'entreprises</b>	<b>Taux ISE 2022</b>	<b>Taux ISE 2022 pour nouvelles constructions</b>	<b>Taux ISE 2022 – paiement tenant lieu d'impôt</b>	<b>Taux ISE 2022 – paiement tenant lieu d'impôt – nouvelles constructions</b>
<b>Biens commerciaux</b>	0,601963%	0,601963%	0,601963%	0,601963%
<b>Biens industriels</b>	0,880000%	0,880000%	0,980000%	0,980000%
<b>Pipelines</b>	0,880000%	s.o.	0,907364%	s.o.
<b>Lieux d'enfouissement</b>	0,584711%	s.o.	0,584711%	s.o.
<b>Petites entreprises exploitées à la ferme (Biens commerciaux et industriels)</b>	0,220000%	s.o.	s.o.	s.o.

# Notice of 2-Part Hearing for a Proposed Nuclear Facility

RECEIVED

JAN 17 2022

## Canadian Nuclear Laboratories

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), Canada's nuclear regulator, is conducting a 2-part public Commission hearing. This hearing will consider the application from Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) to amend its Chalk River Laboratories (CRL) site licence to authorize the construction of a near surface disposal facility (NSDF). The NSDF is a proposed engineered disposal facility for low-level radioactive waste, which would be located on the CRL site in Deep River, Ontario.

## Hearing details

### Part 1: February 22, 2022

CNSC public hearing room, 280 Slater, 14th floor, Ottawa, and/or virtually via Zoom.

### Part 2: Starting May 31, 2022

(duration to be determined based on interventions)

Location to be determined based on applicable COVID-19 protocols; will be held in local community if possible, or in the CNSC public hearing room, and/or virtually via Zoom.

For hearing updates, visit [nuclearsafety.gc.ca](https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca)

To learn more about the CNSC's review of this proposal, visit [nuclearsafety.gc.ca/cnl-nsdf](https://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/cnl-nsdf)

## **How to get involved**

You are invited to comment on CNL's application if you have expertise or information about this facility that can help inform the Commission's decision.

The deadline for submitting an intervention to the Commission Registry is **April 11, 2022**.

To get started, visit:

**[nuclearsafety.gc.ca/participate-commission-hearings](http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/participate-commission-hearings)**

**For further information, contact the Senior Tribunal Officer, Commission Registry:**

Tel.: 613-858-7651 or 1-800-668-5284

Email: [interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca](mailto:interventions@cnsccsn.gc.ca)

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compromise  
safety**

**[www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca](http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca)**

**From:** [AMO Communications](#)  
**To:** [Cindy Pigeau](#)  
**Subject:** AMO Policy Update - Ontario-Municipal Summit Seeks Solutions to Build More Homes  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022 2:04:00 PM

AMO Update not displaying correctly? [View the online version](#)  
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## AMO Policy Update



January 19, 2022

# Ontario-Municipal Summit Seeks Solutions to Build More Homes

Today, Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM), Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO), and AMO President Jamie McGarvey met with Premier Doug Ford and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister Steve Clark, at the [Ontario Housing Affordability Summit](#).

Premier Ford announced more than \$45 million for a new Streamline Development Approval Fund to help Ontario's 39 largest municipalities modernize, streamline, and accelerate processes for managing and approving housing applications. Over \$8 million was announced through the Audit and Accountability Fund to help large urban municipalities identify potential savings and efficiencies through third-party reviews to further accelerate the creation of new housing and modernize municipal services.

The provincial government has also committed to working with the municipal sector to develop a data standard for planning and development applications to help accelerate approval timelines. This work is part of the [Ontario Data Authority](#) initiative, designed to accelerate Ontario's economic and social growth through improved data sharing. AMO's Digital Government Task Force has been recently re-purposed to work on this needed data standard.

AMO agrees with the province that everyone has a role to play in addressing Ontario's housing crisis and reiterates that housing affordability is a shared responsibility requiring commitment and coordination from all orders of government and the non-profit, co-operative, and private sector. Today's Summit was a good start and there is more work to do.

AMO looks forward to continuing to work with our partners to address Ontario's housing crisis, including at the upcoming Rural Housing Affordability Roundtable. The Premier and Minister will be hosting this Roundtable at the ROMA Conference on January 23<sup>rd</sup> with rural, remote, and northern municipal leaders.

AMO's [COVID-19 Resources](#) page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to [covid19@amo.on.ca](mailto:covid19@amo.on.ca).

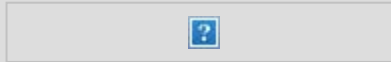
\*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.



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Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6

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January 7, 2022

The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General  
Ministry of the Attorney General  
11<sup>th</sup> Floor, 720 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2S9

Dear Minister,

We, the Mayors of the Town of Caledon and the Town of Mono, respectfully submit this joint letter to provide you with our municipal perspectives, outline our unique challenges and frustrations, and also to propose solutions that would mitigate the serious issues facing our provincial offence courts in Dufferin and Caledon.

Municipal resources are being exhausted and pushed beyond capacity and the implications are profound. The information we share below clearly indicates that the Caledon/Dufferin POA Courts are in a crisis. We are not alone in the Province nor are the problems described here solely attributable to COVID 19.

The critical challenges are:

***Last minute cancellations due to a lack of judicial resources***

This is resulting in a negative and compounding administrative impact to case management. As example, between September 10<sup>th</sup> and December 15<sup>th</sup> there were 3,038 docket lines cancelled and rescheduled. This one example equates to 26 closed court days.

A related frustration is that early resolution dockets are often cancelled, with the next available return date being in June pushing some matter 12 months before they are able to have an early resolution. Matters requesting trials are being scheduled up to 24+ months out.

Another troubling result of this issue is the capital and operating costs to run a court are essentially wasted when we are forced to reschedule due to lack of, or cancellation of, judicial resources. We have provided the courtroom and technology, the court clerks and prosecutors, and notified all the defendants, only to repeatedly cancel.

***Reduction of Judicial availability for administrative functions such as swearing of informations, issuing of summons and review of applications***

This is creating an enormous backlog and, in some cases, has resulted in the swearing of informations occurring *after* an appearance date causing inconvenience to defendants and the need to re-issue summonses with attendant multiple, unproductive court attendances.

Outlined below are some possible solutions that from our perspective would mitigate these issues.

- Assign Justices of the Peace to POA courts either in person or virtually. This should entail total mobility for all justices of the peace regardless of region.
- There are currently over 80 per diem justices of the peace and they should be utilized to the fullest. Exemption from their presiding 'cap', something allowed for, should be considered to address backlog. Per diem justices of the peace willing to accept POA assignments would go a long way to addressing backlog.
- Allow e-Hub access for POA court matters immediately, for the swearing of informations and issuing of summons to start addressing the timeliness of judicial administrative functions and paperwork.
- Launch early resolution, trial and paperwork blitzes to address backlog. Make judicial dependant paperwork a mandatory part of court assignments.
- Use your legislative authority as Attorney General to fast track section 11 of the POA to proclaim the re-opening amendments and, amend the early resolution process in section 5 of the PA to permit the clerk of the court to enter convictions.
- Together with the Ontario Court of Justice, commit to convening a 'Justice Summit' on POA where all stakeholders can address the considerable issues facing our courts.

Minister, it is not inconceivable that hundreds if not thousands of serious charges are at risk of being withdrawn either by prosecutors or as the result of a court ruling on 11b of the Charter as it applies to old POA cases.

We are very willing to be part of the solution and welcome a further conversation with you or your staff on how we can work together. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Mayor John Creelman  
Town of Mong



Mayor Allan Thompson  
Town of Caledon



Copy to:

The Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP Dufferin Caledon

The Honourable Lise Maisonneuve, Chief Justice, Ontario Court of Justice

The Honourable Paul R. Currie, Regional Senior Justice, Central West Judicial District

Her Worship Marsha Farnand, Regional Senior Justice of the Peace

**From:** [Aleysha Blake](#)  
**To:** [Cindy Pigeau](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Ontario Outlines Steps to Cautiously and Gradually Ease Public Health Measures  
**Date:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 2:46:43 PM

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**From:** Kinga Surma [mailto:kinga.surmaco@pc.ola.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 1:56 PM  
**To:** Aleysha Blake <administration@calvintownship.ca>  
**Subject:** Ontario Outlines Steps to Cautiously and Gradually Ease Public Health Measures



With key public health and health care indicators starting to show signs of improvement, the Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, today released details of steps to cautiously and **gradually ease public health measures, starting on January 31, 2022.**

As a result of the additional public health measures enacted on January 5, 2022, the province is beginning to see signs of stabilization in key public health and health system indicators. Per cent positivity has fallen and new admissions to hospital have started to stabilize with the length of stay shortening considerably. Over the coming days and weeks, these trends are expected to continue, allowing the province to begin cautiously easing public health measures.

In the absence of concerning trends in public health and health care indicators, Ontario will follow a cautious and phased approach to lifting public health measures, with 21 days between each step.

### **January 31, 2022**

Effective January 31, 2022 at 12:01 a.m. Ontario will begin the process of gradually easing restrictions while maintaining protective measures, including but not limited to:

- Increasing social gathering limits to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors.
- Increasing or maintaining capacity limits at 50 per cent in indoor public settings, including but not limited to:
  - Restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments without dance facilities;
  - Retailers (including grocery stores and pharmacies)
  - Shopping malls;
  - Non-spectator areas of sports and recreational fitness facilities, including gyms;
  - Cinemas;
  - Meeting and event spaces;

Recreational amenities and amusement parks, including water parks;

- Museums, galleries, aquariums, zoos and similar attractions; and
- Casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments
- Religious services, rites, or ceremonies.
- Allowing spectator areas of facilities such as sporting events, concert venues and theatres to operate at 50 per cent seated capacity or 500 people, whichever is less.

Enhanced proof of vaccination and other requirements would continue to apply in existing settings.

### **February 21, 2022**

Effective February 21, 2022, Ontario will lift public health measures, including:

- Increasing social gathering limits to 25 people indoors and 100 people outdoors.
- Removing capacity limits in indoor public settings where proof of vaccination is required, including but not limited to restaurants, indoor sports and recreational facilities, cinemas, as well as other settings that choose to opt-in to proof of vaccination requirements.
- Permitting spectator capacity at sporting events, concert venues, and theatres at 50 per cent capacity.
- Limiting capacity in most remaining indoor public settings where proof of vaccination is not required to the number of people that can maintain two metres of physical distance.
- Indoor religious services, rites or ceremonies are limited to the number that can maintain two metres of physical distance, with no limit if proof of vaccination is required.
- Increasing indoor capacity limits to 25 per cent in the remaining higher-risk settings where proof of vaccination is required, including nightclubs, wedding receptions in meeting or event spaces where there is dancing, as well as bathhouses and sex clubs.

Enhanced proof of vaccination and other requirements would continue to apply in existing settings.

### **March 14, 2022**

Effective March 14, 2022, Ontario will take additional steps to ease public health measures, including:

- Lifting capacity limits in all indoor public settings. Proof of vaccination will be maintained in existing settings in addition to other regular measures.
- Lifting remaining capacity limits on religious services, rites, or ceremonies.
- Increase social gathering limits to 50 people indoors with no limits for outdoor

gatherings.

To manage COVID-19 over the long term, local and regional responses by public health units may be deployed based on local context and conditions.

To support businesses required to close or reduce capacity due to the public health measures put in place to blunt the spread of the Omicron variant, the government has launched the [Ontario Business Costs Rebate Program](#). Through the new program, the government will provide eligible businesses with a rebate payment of up to 100 per cent for property tax and energy costs they incur while subject to these restrictions. Applications for the program opened on January 18, 2022. [Learn more about the program and apply here](#).

The government is also introducing a new COVID-19 Small Business Relief Grant that will give businesses subject to closure under the modified Step Two of the Roadmap to Reopen a \$10,000 grant. The money will flow to eligible businesses in February. In addition, the government is also improving cash flows for Ontario businesses by making up to \$7.5 billion available through a six-month interest- and penalty-free period for Ontario businesses to make payments for most provincially administered taxes. This penalty and interest-free period started on January 1, 2022. This supports businesses now and provides the flexibility they will need for long-term planning.

Best Regards,

Office of MPP Kinga Surma  
Etobicoke Centre



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**Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF)**  
**2022 First Quarter Payment Notice**



Municipality of Calvin

4822

<b>A. Total 2022 OMPF (2022 Allocation Notice, Line A)</b>			<b>\$189,500</b>
<b>B. 2022 OMPF Quarterly Payments Schedule</b>			<b>\$189,500</b>
1.	2022 OMPF First Quarter Payment	<i>Issued January 2022</i>	\$47,375
2.	2022 OMPF Second Quarter Payment	<i>Scheduled for April 2022</i>	\$47,375
3.	2022 OMPF Third Quarter Payment	<i>Scheduled for July 2022</i>	\$47,375
4.	2022 OMPF Fourth Quarter Payment	<i>Scheduled for October 2022</i>	\$47,375
<b>C. Payment Issued in January</b>			<b>\$47,375</b>
1.	2022 OMPF First Quarter Payment	<i>Issued January 2022</i>	\$47,375