

## COVID-19: Recovery and Re-opening Tracker

**By: Trevor Lawson, Lara Nathans, Adam Goldenberg, Marco Fimiani, David Boire-Schwab, Jean-Simon Castonguay, Grace Waschuk, Charlotte Simard-Zakaib, Gabriel Querry, Nicole Fitz-Simon, Caroline-Ariane Bernier, Camille Bélanger, Madison Howell, Todd Pribanic-White, Hannah Young, Lauren Weaver, Shailaja Nadarajah, Michael Cui.**

As Governments and businesses turn their minds toward the recovery and re-opening of the economy, our team is closely monitoring updates from governments across Canada. The following summarizes the recovery and re-opening measures which have been announced to date in each jurisdiction. We will continue to update this summary as further measures are introduced across the country.

This roundup was last updated on **January 5<sup>12</sup>, 2022**. To see what has changed since our last update, please download our blackline,

[here](#).

### Federal

- **December 30, 2021:** The Government of Canada launched applications for the expanded Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit (CWLB) to better support Canadian workers in designated regions affected by lockdowns or capacity restrictions ([link](#)).
- **December 22, 2021:** The Government of Canada gave Royal Assent to Bill C-2 which includes a new “Local Lockdown Program” to provide businesses that face temporary new local lockdowns with up to the maximum amount available through the wage and rent subsidy programs ([link](#)).
- **December 21, 2021:** The Minister of National revenue announced further details on the *Targeted COVID-19 Support Measures*, including its current application periods. These are meant to ensure that the hardest-hit sectors and those most affected by the pandemic will continue to receive the support they need ([link](#)).
- **December 17, 2021:** The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance welcomed the Royal Assent of Bill C-2. This provides workers and businesses with help to deal with the impact of the Omicron variant including by providing for a Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit, a Local Lockdown Program, extending the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit and Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit, creating a Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program, creating a Hardest-Hit Business Recovery Program, and extending the Canada Recovery Hiring Program ([link](#)).
- **December 17, 2021:** The Government of Canada announced support to the tourism sector to create jobs and strengthen the economy after having been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. This is part of Canada’s plan to support hard hit sectors ([link](#)).

ensure compliance with mandatory isolation requirements. Provincial officials will follow up with arriving travellers within three days ([link](#)).

- **May 15, 2020:** Limits on outside gatherings which were previously restricted to 15 people have increased to a maximum of 50 people ([link](#)).
- **May 14, 2020:** The Government of Alberta announced that workplaces are expected to develop and implement policies and procedures to address COVID-19, and these plans must be posted in places of business or online within seven days of the public being able to attend the business ([link](#)).
- **May 14, 2020:** Stage one of Alberta's relaunch plan began May 14, 2020 and allows for the resumption of operations in several sectors ([link](#)).
- **May 14, 2020:** As part of Alberta's relaunch plan, museums may begin to open starting May 14, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 11, 2020:** The Alberta Biz Connect web page provides business owners with information on health and safety guidelines for general workplaces, as well as sector-specific guidelines for re-opening businesses ([link](#)).
- **May 11, 2020:** The Government of Alberta announced that criminal matters, pre-trial conferences and pre-preliminary hearing conferences are now being conducted ([link](#)).
- **May 8, 2020:** The Government of Alberta announced the easing of certain measures. The Government of Alberta also announced that travel to summer homes, cabins, and cottages within the province will be permitted and that outdoor gun ranges may open so long as restrictions to ensure physical distancing are followed ([link](#)).
- **May 7, 2020:** The Government of Alberta released workplace guidance for re-opening businesses ([link](#)).
- **May 6, 2020:** The Court of Queen's Bench is now hearing summary dispositions virtually for civil cases where all parties consent to proceed virtually ([link](#)).
- **May 1, 2020:** The Government of Alberta launched the ABTraceTogether app to assist in contact tracing while relaunching the economy. Alberta residents may voluntarily download the app ([link](#)).
- **April 30, 2020:** The Government of Alberta released a phased relaunch strategy. The re-opening of things such as vehicle access to parking lots and staging areas in parks and on public lands will begin on May 1, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 29, 2020:** The Government of Alberta will allow residents in long-term care and supportive living environments to have outdoor visits with a designated essential visitor ([link](#)).

## **Saskatchewan**

- **January 5, 2022:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced steps for schools to continue safely, including self-isolation requirements for students ([link](#)).
- **December 7, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced the SK Vax Wallet app will now support international travel ([link](#)).
- **November 30, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan released guidance on holiday gatherings ([link](#)).
- **November 25, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced a public health order regarding mandatory isolation and face covering ([link](#)).
- **November 25, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced a public health order regarding vaccination and negative testing ([link](#)).
- **November 10, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced that legislation will be introduced to ensure healthcare workers, patients and families have safe access to hospitals. The legislation is also intended to expand workforce flexibility to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#)).
- **October 19, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced new mandatory isolation and face covering requirements ([link](#)).
- **October 19, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan further clarified the public health order requiring proof of vaccination or a negative test ([link](#)).
- **October 15, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced a new public health order that will require proof of vaccination or a negative test in additional venues ([link](#)).
- **October 15, 2021:** The Saskatchewan Health Authority announced the expanded delivery of at-home self-testing COVID-19 kits to the general public, including First Nation communities the week of October 18, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **October 1, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced amendments to the Public Employers' COVID-19 Emergency Regulations ([link](#)).
- **October 1, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced amendments to the Employers' COVID-19 Emergency Regulations ([link](#)).
- **September 29, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced expansion of self-testing ([link](#)).
- **September 29, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced the launch of two new applications to support proof of vaccination requirements ([link](#)).
- **September 28, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced that effective October 1, 2021, proof of vaccination or a negative test result will be required for public access to a range of businesses, event venues, as well as for all Government of Saskatchewan ministry, crown and agency employees ([link](#)).

- **April 29, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba announced a phased approach to opening the economy which will begin on May 4, 2020 ([link](#)).

## Ontario

- **January 7, 2022:** [The Government of Ontario announced a plan to provide support for small businesses, workers, and families, including a \\$10,000 grant for eligible small businesses and additional electricity-rate relief \(link\).](#)
- **December 22, 2021:** The Government of Ontario announced it would provide support to businesses in the Algoma and Manitoulin regions. More than \$1.5 million will be allocated to help 74 local businesses adapt to the COVID-19 public health guidelines. This funding will be delivered through the Northern Ontario Recovery Program (NORP) ([link](#)).
- **December 22, 2021:** The Government of Ontario announced it would introduce new supports for businesses most impacted by public health measures in response to the Omicron variant. These supports include a new Ontario Business Costs Rebate Program and a six-month interest- and penalty-free period to make payments for most provincially administered taxes ([link](#)).
- **December 15, 2021:** The Government of Ontario announced it would support businesses impacted by the pandemic and continue to provide choice and convenience to consumers by cutting LCBO wholesale prices for bars and restaurants, enabling curbside pickup of beer, wine and cider from licensed grocery stores, and freezing the basic beer tax rate ([link](#)).
- **December 7, 2021:** The Government of Ontario announced that it is extending COVID-19 paid sick days until July 31, 2022 ([link](#)).
- **December 7, 2021:** The Government of Ontario announced it was extending the pause on lifting capacity limits in remaining settings where proof of vaccination is required ([link](#)).
- **November 18, 2021:** The Government of Ontario announced additional COVID-19 testing will be available ([link](#)).
- **November 10, 2021:** The Government of Ontario paused the lifting of capacity limits in remaining settings where proof of vaccination is required ([link](#)).
- **October 29, 2021:** The Government of Ontario announced that the Apple Wallet update is now compatible with Ontario's vaccine certificate ([link](#)).
- **October 22, 2021:** The Government of Ontario released its plan to gradually lift the remaining public health and workplace safety measures by March 2022 ([link](#)).
- **October 15, 2021:** The Government of Ontario announced an amendment to clarify certain proof of vaccination requirements and that the Verify Ontario application is available for download starting October 15, 2021 ([link](#)).

- **April 29, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick announced that it is transitioning to the orange phase of the recovery plan, aimed at re-opening social and economic settings while preventing a resurgence of transmission ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick announced the first phase of New Brunswick's recovery plan and the loosening of some public health restrictions ([link](#)).

## **Nova Scotia**

- **January 10, 2022:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced that businesses impacted by the latest public health restrictions may now apply for support through the Sector Impact Program. Businesses can be eligible for grants of \$2,500, \$5,000, or \$7,500 depending on gross payroll cost or gross revenue in November 2021 ([link](#)). More information regarding eligibility criteria and the application can be found [here](#).
- **December 22, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced the relaunch of Nova Scotia's COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Program. It is expected to relaunch on January 10, 2022 and be in place until March 31, 2022 ([link](#)).
- **December 17, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced a grant program to support businesses impacted by the latest round of COVID-19 restrictions ([link](#)).
- **December 3, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia provided a fifth update on vaccination mandates for key sectors and the provincial civil service ([link](#)).
- **November 30, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia provided a fourth update on vaccination mandates for key sectors and the provincial civil service ([link](#)).
- **November 26, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia expanded the Take-Home Test Kits Program for Kids ([link](#)).
- **November 24, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia provided a third update on vaccination mandates for key sectors and the provincial civil service ([link](#)).
- **November 17, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia provided a second update on vaccination mandates for healthcare, education and other sectors ([link](#)).
- **October 27, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced that starting November 1, 2021, all domestic travellers to Nova Scotia who are age 12 and older will have self-isolation requirements based on vaccination status ([link](#)).
- **October 17, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced the closure of Dartmouth South Academic to reduce the spread of COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **October 14, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced third doses will be available to immunocompromised people and people who need to travel for work to meet entry requirements or avoid isolation in a country that does not recognize mixed doses ([link](#)).

distancing can be maintained. Additionally, indoor events will be increased to a maximum limit of 50% capacity or 200 people ([link](#)).

- **June 25, 2020:** Some provincial museums will reopen starting July 1, 2020. Visitors will be required to practice physical distancing and follow the site-specific guidelines ([link](#)).
- **June 24, 2020:** Interprovincial travel without the requirement to self-isolate will be permitted in Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, PEI, and Nova Scotia, for residents of Atlantic Canada as of July 3, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 18, 2020:** The Chief Medical Officer of Health for Nova Scotia announced that people can gather in groups of up to 10 without physical distancing. Gatherings of up to 50 will also be permitted, but people must observe physical distancing of at least 2 meters ([link](#)).
- **June 12, 2020:** The Chief Medical Officer of Health released COVID-19 guidelines that all summer day camps must follow ([link](#)).
- **June 10, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced the easing of some visitor restrictions in long-term care homes and homes for persons with disabilities ([link](#)).
- **June 2, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced that licensed child care centres and family daycare homes can re-open starting June 15, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 29, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia increased the gathering limit to 10 people ([link](#)).
- **May 29, 2020:** The Shubenacadie Wildlife Park will re-open on June 1, 2020, and provincial campgrounds can re-open on June 15, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 27, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced that most businesses required to close under the public health order can re-open starting June 5, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 15, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced the easing of certain public health measures. Families may now create a family bubble between two immediate family households. Additionally, a variety of outdoor activities are now permitted ([link](#)).
- **May 8, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia plans to re-open daycares on June 8, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 1, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced the easing of some public health restrictions around outdoor and recreational activities ([link](#)).

### **Prince Edward Island**

- **[January 7, 2022:](#)** [The Government of Prince Edward Island announced it is extending the COVID-19 Emergency Payment for Workers Program and the Emergency Income Relief Program for the Self-Employed until January 17, 2022](#) ([link](#)).