



YMCA of Niagara
3-300 Bunting Road,
St, Catharines, ON L2M 7X3
ymcaofniagara.org

Dear YMCA of Niagara Members and Participants,

Our YMCA remains committed to the health and safety of all our staff, volunteers and members. We have worked hard to implement strong and consistent infection prevention controls to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 across all of our operating locations over the past 16 months.

Today, the Ontario government has announced a mandatory vaccination requirement for patrons wishing to attend sports, fitness facilities and gyms, with the exception of youth recreational sports. This is effective September 22, 2021.

This requirement applies to patrons in order to attend all of our YMCA of Niagara Health and Fitness locations, as well as any YMCA physical activity programs and services delivered at other community sites across the Niagara region.

Proof of full vaccination status (completed prior to September 8, 2021) will be required in order to attend our YMCA effective September 22, 2021. Our YMCA will comply with human rights obligations and accommodate individuals who are legally entitled to an exemption. Accommodation could include virtual offerings, outdoor offerings or other program alternatives. Members will be asked to use the Ontario government's vaccine verification tool as the means for demonstrating proof of vaccination.

Our YMCA locations in Port Colborne, Welland and Grimsby will reopen for in-person visits on September 15. We will require participants over the age of 12 to present proof of full vaccination status to our customer service staff in order to reactivate a YMCA membership. At that time our staff will note in our registration system that this step has been completed (You will only have to complete this step once). It is our goal to implement a process that is as convenient as possible for you to attend our YMCA programs and services.

If we have not received proof of your full vaccination status by end of day September 21, 2021, your membership will not be activated and you will not be able to book in-person visits. New membership packages sold after September 15, 2021 will require proof of vaccination at the point of sale. Members and participants who are unable to provide proof of full vaccination status are invited to participate in our Virtual Programs.

Our YMCA will fully comply with the regulation that has been announced today. We will also continue to require the pre-booking of visits through EZ Facility, daily health-screening for each person prior to entry, as well as the use of masks, physical distancing and enhanced cleaning and disinfection procedures as indicated.

Please be kind to our staff and volunteers who have a responsibility to follow and abide by the regulations and protocols that have been mandated by the provincial government. This is a new process for everyone and your patience is appreciated.

*Building healthy
communities*



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We encourage everyone to receive vaccination for COVID-19. Our YMCA has been hosting vaccination clinics onsite for Niagara Region Public Health. Together we can stop the spread of COVID-19 and resume all of the in-person activities we look forward to in our community.

Sincerely,
Steven Chuang
CEO, YMCA of Niagara

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