



Getting the Job Done on Vaccines with Proof of Vaccination

Canadians want to get back to their pre-COVID lives. They want to visit loved ones, take vacations, and they do not want to go back to difficult but, at the time, necessary lockdowns. They want to feel safe when they leave their homes, without having to worry about getting sick themselves, or about their families getting sick.

During the pandemic, Canadians stepped up - by staying home, wearing masks, maintaining social distance - and found new ways to connect with one another while keeping each other safe and getting vaccinated. Now, as we finish the fight against COVID-19, it is time to protect these hard-won gains. We want to get Canadians moving again in a safe and responsible way, while continuing to increase the number of fully vaccinated Canadians coast to coast to coast.

Failing to do so, puts our recovery at risk. It creates uncertainty for businesses and workers, makes it harder for workplaces and businesses to open up, and risks the health of Canadians. As recently pointed out by the Chief Economist of TD Bank: "Provinces who are more proactive in putting in measures that increase confidence in going to restaurants and concerts might do better than provinces who aren't putting these measures in."

A re-elected Liberal government will protect the hard won gains made by Canadians in fighting COVID-19 by:

- Introducing a \$1 billion COVID-19 Proof of Vaccination Fund that will be available to support provinces and territories who implement a requirement for proof-of-vaccine credentials in their jurisdiction for non-essential businesses and public spaces;
- Continuing to procure enough vaccines to ensure all Canadians have access to free COVID-19 booster shots and second-generation vaccines as needed, across all provinces and territories;
- Investing \$100M to study the long-term health impacts of COVID-19, including the effects of "long-COVID" on groups including vulnerable populations and children.

Erin O'Toole won't listen to the experts on vaccinations. He can't convince his own candidates to get vaccinated and he would let unvaccinated people travel on trains and planes. We need leadership to get us through this crisis and get the job done on vaccines, and Erin O'Toole won't deliver that.

These measures will help keep Canadians safe as we move forward with reopening our communities and the economy.

COVID-19 Proof of Vaccination Fund to Support Provinces and Territories

Canadians want to be able to visit their favourite shop, go to a movie, or eat in a restaurant in a way that is safe. To help Canadians be confident in knowing that they are going to be safe when they are out in their communities, we will support the provinces and territories who implement a requirement for proof of vaccination for entry into non-essential businesses and public spaces. Proof of vaccination systems ensure Canadians can be confident that those around them are fully vaccinated, in addition to providing businesses with important and clear guidance around how to reopen safely. They also help drive increased vaccination rates across the country.

So to support and encourage these efforts, we will launch a \$1 billion Proof of Vaccination Fund that will be available for allocation on a per capita basis to support any costs associated with the design and rollout of a proof-of-vaccine credential. These funds will be available for any province and territory moving forward with the development of a proof of vaccination certification in their jurisdiction, backed up by an enforceable mandate to require proof of full vaccination for access to non-essential businesses and services. This includes Quebec and British Columbia, who have already announced plans to do so.

Any additional funds allocated to a jurisdiction above and beyond the costs associated with the proof-of-vaccine credential may be put towards the continuing fight against COVID-19 and a safe reopening.

COVID-19 Booster Shots and Second Generation Vaccines for Canadians

We worked tirelessly over the last year to secure enough doses so that every Canadian could be vaccinated against COVID-19 - and we delivered this in July, two full months ahead of schedule. Now, we have secured a sufficient supply of COVID-19 vaccines for the next few years so that all Canadians can receive a free booster shot or second-generation vaccine if needed. We will continue to implement our vaccine strategy as health guidance evolves, to ensure Canadians continue to have free access to the COVID-19 vaccines they need.

COVID-19 Research Fund

Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have invested more than \$250 million to study COVID-19, covering everything from diagnostics and potential treatment, to public health measures and support for mental health and COVID-related trauma. We will make an additional investment of \$100 million into the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to support research on the long-term health impact of COVID-19, including emerging therapies, long-COVID, community immunity, and the health effects on vulnerable groups and children.

¹ <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/td-sees-weaker-growth-in-provinces-that-shun-vaccine-passports-1.1644579>