



Communicable Disease Plan

August 25, 2021

INTRODUCTION

Canadian School of Natural Nutrition Vancouver Island (CSNN VI) is committed to providing safe and healthy environments for all members of the school community. We continue to work closely with the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) and the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training to support a safe return to campus. In alignment with the [BC Restart plan](#) and the Post-Secondary [Return-to-Campus Guidelines](#), and following [WorkSafeBC](#) requirements, this communicable disease (CD) plan outlines the ongoing prevention measures that everyone needs to follow as we transition from prescriptive COVID-19 safety measures to general communicable disease prevention measures that are guided by public health.

These protocols are guidelines for the Canadian School of Natural Nutrition Vancouver Island, (CSNN VI) Victoria classroom location's Communicable Diseases Prevention Plan. Canadian School of Natural Nutrition Vancouver Island abides by any, notices, or guidance issued by the British Columbia Provincial Health Officer and local health authorities. These protocols will be periodically updated, as necessary, to align with evolving guidance from the Provincial Health Officer. The goal of these protocols is to support the safe return to in-person teaching, learning, administrative and support services at Canadian School of Natural Nutrition Vancouver Island while reducing the risk of communicable disease transmission.

SCOPE

This CD plan applies to all staff, faculty and students engaged in any CSNN VI activity including in-person instruction and related academic activities and administrative, operational services.

This CD plan is effective as of August 24, 2021 and replaces all existing COVID-19 Health & Safety Plans.

August 2021 Update

In response to rising COVID-19 cases, the [province introduced a new mask mandate](#) for all people aged 12 and older in indoor public settings. On Aug. 23 [the province announced the introduction of a proof-of-vaccine requirement](#) (BC Vaccine Card) for BC citizens.



Masks

In accordance with the new [province-wide restrictions](#), as of August 25 2021 everyone must wear a mask at all times in public indoor settings and indoor common areas. These include:

- elevators, lobbies, hallways, stairwells, bathrooms, break rooms, staff kitchens, libraries, coffee shops and retail outlets
- restaurants, pubs and bars when not seated at a table
- sport and fitness centres when not engaged in physical activities
- classrooms and labs

Additional details for mask requirements in classrooms and work areas (e.g. shared offices and meeting rooms) will apply as per PHO requirements.

Exemptions

There are also exemptions for people with underlying medical conditions that inhibit their ability to wear masks. A full list of exemptions and masking requirements can be found:

[Province-wide restrictions - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)

There are exemptions for:

- People with health conditions or with physical, cognitive or mental impairments who cannot wear one
- People who cannot remove a mask on their own
- Children under the age of 12
- People who need to remove their masks to communicate due to another person's hearing impairment

A face shield is not a substitute for a mask as it has an opening below the mouth.

Vaccinations

The [BC government announced the BC Vaccine Card program](#) on Aug. 23 2021. The program comes into effect **Sept. 13** 2021 and will require those over 12 to show proof of vaccination for admission to **select** activities and events. CSNN VI requirements will meet any PHO requirements.

- As of Sept. 13, people in British Columbia will be required to be partially vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine to access certain businesses and events.
- As of Oct. 24, people in British Columbia will be required to be fully immunized, at least seven days after receiving two doses of COVID-19 vaccine, to access the same list of businesses and events.



- In the interim, in areas where community transmission is increased significantly or where there are outbreaks, the requirements to be fully vaccinated to access these events and activities may be required at the direction of the local medical health officer.
- Here is the full list of settings where proof of vaccination will be required:
 - indoor ticketed sporting events
 - indoor concerts
 - indoor theatre/dance/symphony events
 - restaurants (indoor and patio dining)
 - night clubs
 - casinos
 - movie theatres
 - fitness centres/gyms (excluding youth recreational sport)
 - businesses offering indoor high-intensity group exercise activities
 - organized indoor events (eg. weddings, parties, conferences, meetings, workshops)
 - discretionary organized indoor group recreational classes and activities
- Individual businesses or event organizers may also implement these requirements earlier as part of their ongoing safety plans. Businesses or institutions choosing to adopt their own vaccination policies beyond those set out in this order will be responsible for doing their own due diligence.
- Individuals will be able to confidentially access their proof of vaccination through a secure website. A weblink will be provided and publicized widely before Sept. 13. To access proof of vaccination an individual will need:
 - name
 - date of birth
 - personal health number (PHN)
- Individuals will be able to save a copy of their proof of vaccination to their phone to show when entering or using designated businesses and events.
- A second, secure option will be provided for people who cannot access their proof of vaccination online through a call-in centre (call centre details to be made public in coming days).
- Individuals will show proof of vaccination in the settings listed in the PHO order, alongside valid government ID.
- Proof of vaccination will also be required for people visiting from outside of B.C. using a provincially/territorially recognized official record alongside valid government ID from the jurisdiction. For individuals visiting from outside of Canada, they will be required to show their proof of vaccination used to enter the country and their passport.
- The measures will be time limited through to Jan. 31, 2022, subject to possible extension.
- The measures set out above do not apply to K-12 schools (public and independent) and before-and-after school programs for students. Student-only events and activities within K-to-12 public and independent schools and before and after school programs are excluded from providing a proof of vaccine as they will be covered by specific guidelines for school and child care settings. Guidance for these settings related to students will be provided in the coming days. The measures do apply to large indoor events (theatre, concerts) attended by parents, family and/or the public.
- The measures set out above will, as relevant, apply to post-secondary campuses. Student housing will be a part of the public health order identifying where proof of



vaccination is required and will be in effect for Sept. 7. Further guidance for these settings related to students will be developed in the coming days in consultation with public health, including which types of student housing facilities will be included.

More details about how this program will impact campus services and activities will be announced soon.

Vaccination clinics

[Vax for B.C. - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www.gov.bc.ca)

Resources

- [Masks in workplaces - WorkSafeBC](#)
- [COVID-19: How to wear a non-medical mask or face covering properly \(video\) - Canada.ca](#)

At Step 4 of the BC Restart Plan, has been delayed. In addition to this CD plan, it may still be required to follow applicable sector-specific safety guidelines or ongoing Public Health Officer requirements (e.g. gatherings and events). Similarly, for field trips (if offered) will still need to follow local, provincial or federal travel restrictions, local community entry requirements, as well as CSNN VI requirements for international student travel or field safety plans.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION

Communicable disease prevention focuses on basic risk reduction principles to reduce the risk of workplace transmission of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases. The fundamental components of communicable disease prevention include both ongoing measures to always maintain and additional measures to be implemented as advised by public health during periods of elevated risk. CSNN VI will regularly monitor and review communicable disease information from public health authorities and update the CSNN VI community of any changes affecting CSNN VI activities, including updating the CD plan as required.

Key interventions to reduce Communicable Disease transmission are:

- early diagnosis and isolation of people with a Communicable Disease and
- Identification and management of clusters of Communicable Disease infection.



ONGOING PREVENTION MEASURES

Supporting employees and students to stay at home when sick

- All employees, instructors and students must continue to do a daily health self-assessment.
- If you are ill or have symptoms of a communicable disease (e.g. fever and/or chills, recent onset of coughing, diarrhea):
 - o please stay home
 - o notify Administration (250-668-8663) and your instructor of your absence
 - o consult the COVID-19 self-assessment tool to see if you should get tested, and contact **811** if you require medical advice
- Branch Manager CSNN VI will follow established protocols to support student absence due to illness and liaise with the Instructor team as needed.
- For those office employees who are able to work at home while they are recovering from their illness/symptoms, please refer to your Branch Manager for further information
- **All** students, Instructors and office staff are requested to carry a mask with them in the event its needed. Spare masks are available at Administration (\$1.00 each)

Promoting hand-washing and hygiene practices

- Washing your hands regularly, or using hand sanitizers if a washroom or sink is not readily available, is one of the most simple and effective ways to minimize the spread of communicable diseases.
- In addition, covering your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough will also help to reduce the spread of germs.
- CSNN VI will also continue to supply hand sanitizer stations at the main entrance to the school, and in the kitchen and in the classroom to promote hand hygiene.
- For outdoor or off-campus school activities (if offered), individuals should ensure that hand sanitizer is supplied if washing facilities are not available (e.g. outdoor events, field locations, etc.).
- Signage is posted throughout campus to remind everyone of these important practices.



Routine cleaning

- CSNN VI is committed to maintaining a clean environment through routine cleaning practices, and implementing enhanced cleaning practices if directed by public health during any periods of elevated risk.
- For the fall term general campus cleaning will return to pre-pandemic practices and schedules as recommended by the PHO and Post-Secondary RTC Guidelines.
- Office staff are not required to disinfect surfaces or shared equipment (e.g. photocopiers, keyboards, desks, appliances, etc.) as part of their usual housekeeping practices unless this is deemed necessary.

Building Ventilation (HVAC Systems)

- Following the direction of WorkSafeBC and the PHO, institutions must ensure that building heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems are operating and maintained in accordance with WorkSafeBC requirements and relevant ASHRAE Standards.
- Ahead of the fall term, Building Management (Richmond Property Management) has assessed building HVAC systems to ensure those systems continue to meet WorkSafeBC requirements.
- As the weather permits, external doors may be opened to also improve air circulation and where it does not interfere with the proper functioning of an HVAC system

Supporting Vaccination

- Getting vaccinated is an important tool supporting the BC Restart Plan.
- CSNN VI encourages everyone who is eligible and able, to consider vaccination to protect yourself and others.
- CSNN VI employees are entitled to up to three hours of paid leave to be vaccinated against COVID-19, if required. [Legislation for paid COVID-19 vaccination leave now in force | BC Gov News](#)
- Note: the COVID-19 vaccine is not mandatory to study, work, or visit the CSNN VI campus unless required by the PHO.
- Learn more about [the benefits and safety of the vaccine](#), and [register](#) to receive an invite to book a vaccine appointment

RESPONDING TO ELEVATED RISK

- The level of risk of certain communicable diseases, including COVID-19, may change from time to time or on a seasonal basis. This may occur at a local or regional level or within a workplace.
- In addition to maintaining the ongoing prevention measures, CSNN VI will monitor public health information and be responsive to any further directives from the local medical health officer or provincial health officer which could include, for example, implementing enhanced cleaning



measures, distancing requirements or masking guidance.

- Any changes to prevention measures during periods of elevated risk will be communicated to those affected

COMMUNICATION AND CONTINUED MONITORING

- This CD plan will be available on CSNN VI website, reviewed at Fall Orientation and shared widely with our campus community.
- CSNN VI will ensure that everyone (staff, instructors, visitors and students) has reviewed the CD Plan and understand and follow the measures in place.
- The prevention measures will be reinforced through campus signage, and by other communication tools on a regular basis

The **ongoing review** and evaluation of the CD plan will involve the CSNN VI Branch Manager, Office Manager and the Instructor team as part of its annual consultation process on health and safety programs.

- Monitoring of the ongoing prevention measures is the responsibility of the CSNN VI Branch Manager
- Individuals should report any health and safety concerns to the Branch Manager CSNN VI (victoria@csnn.ca), who is responsible to follow-up and address any concerns.