



The United Church of Canada L'Église Unie du Canada



Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council
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September 24, 2021

Dear Members of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council (New Brunswick)

The Hon. Dorothy Shephard, Minister of Health, heard our concerns about the lack of clarity in the last communication. She indicated earlier this week that they were working on a policy that would hopefully help the situations. Government has prepared a pair of safe options that should meet the needs of our faith communities.

These policies are effective now and supersede any previous discussions. These policies are the choices by which a church may practice under and relates to services only. Any other activities within the church building are subject to participants providing "proof of vaccination".

1) Proof of Vaccination:

Should your place of worship require all participants to show full proof of vaccination, you must:

- Wear a mask at all times.
- Social distancing is not required
- No capacity issue
- Singing while masked is permitted.

2) No Proof of Vaccination

Should your place of worship forego full proof of vaccination, you must ensure:

- Everyone masked at all times
- Operate at 50% or less capacity
- maintain two metres of physical distancing between different households.
- no congregational singing
- record names of all attendees and contact information by row or have a consistent assigned seating plan for contact tracing; and;
- prevent anyone displaying COVID-19 symptoms or who has been instructed to self-isolate from entering.

Regardless of which option your place of worship selects, everyone will need to show proof of full vaccination whenever they access the church for other activities, which includes weddings, funerals, parties, conferences and workshops.

Thank you for your patience. It is the responsibility of your Community of Faith to make the decision of which option you will choose. The option chosen will need to be clearly communicated with your congregation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in contact at fmaccuish@united-church.ca or 1-800-268-3781 ext. 6156.

With appreciation for all you do.

Faith

Rev. Faith March-MacCuish
Executive Minister