

Guelph Youth Music Centre (GYMC) Vaccination Policy

Introduction:

The Guelph Youth Music Centre (the “GYMC”) is committed to maintaining a healthy and safe environment for everyone who attends the GYMC in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. In our day-to-day facility operations, we are responsible for protecting all students, participants, parents, teachers, volunteers and staff. For this reason, it is critical that the GYMC take any and all precautions to protect against the spread of COVID-19. Therefore, we have implemented a mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy.

Scope of Policy:

This policy applies to everyone, 12 years of age and older, who enters the premises of the GYMC, located at 75 Cardigan Street in Guelph (the “GYMC Facility”). Please read the policy carefully.

Please note that the GYMC has also implemented a COVID-19 vaccination policy for the GYMC staff. If you have any questions about the GYMC’s employee COVID-19 vaccination policy, please do not hesitate to contact the GYMC’s executive director, Gabriella Currie-Ziegler. gabriella@gymc.ca or 519.241.9641.

Importance of Vaccination:

Vaccination against COVID-19 is a key part of our overall strategy and commitment to maintaining a healthy and safe centre in light of the pandemic. Although knowledge about the virus continues to evolve, vaccination appears vital in curbing its spread based on the information we have now. Compliance with this policy is essential because current consensus on the virus suggests, among other things, that:

- COVID-19 and its variants are highly contagious;
- COVID-19 and its variants spread mostly among people who are in close contact in an indoor setting;
- A person who has the virus may not have any symptoms but may still spread COVID-19 and its variants;
- COVID-19 and its variants can cause serious and long-term ailment or be fatal.
- Currently, a significant majority of those with COVID-19 who have died or require hospitalization are not fully vaccinated.

For these reasons, public health experts recommend that individuals be vaccinated at their earliest opportunity. We need your full cooperation and compliance with these measures to make them effective in this new situation.

For more information about the COVID-19 vaccine, please visit:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/vaccines.html> (If the link does not work, please copy and paste the link into your search engine address bar.)

Vaccination Measures:

It is the policy position of the GYMC to ensure everyone entering the GYMC Facility is vaccinated against COVID-19, as recommended by the Ministry of Health and Provincial Health Officer. Subject to the exemptions enumerated in this policy, the GYMC requires you to obtain a vaccination for COVID-19 prior to engaging in any lessons (single or group), events or any other business that brings you into the GYMC Facility. You can complete the vaccination declaration form online at gymc.ca. If you require a hard copy, you will be provided one. Your vaccination status and detail information will be held in strictest confidence by GYMC management.

Accommodation:

The GYMC is committed to accommodating medical conditions and creeds and will take all reasonable steps to accommodate individuals who cannot be vaccinated based on these reasons.

The method of accommodation will be determined on a case-by-case basis, having regard to the recommendations of medical specialists and public health officials.

If you request an accommodation via the Confirmation of COVID-19 Vaccination Form, please speak directly to your program/event leader or GYMC office manager or executive director, who will be able to address your accommodation request.

You will be asked to provide the relevant form signed by a medical professional, or in the case of creed, an exemption request sworn and affirmed by a Commissioner of Oaths. Please note that with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic, the **Ontario Human Rights Commission's (OHRC)** position has been that a singular belief or personal preference against vaccinations and/or masks is not protected on the ground of creed under the *Code*.

The GYMC may impose some or all of the following protocols and procedures, among others, to accommodate unvaccinated individuals while protecting all others who engage at the GYMC:

- Before entering the building, wear a (minimum 2-ply) face mask at all times, covering the nose, mouth and chin.
 - Note: Gators, face shields; bandanas, etc. are not acceptable face coverings;
- Sanitize hands upon entering the building;

- Avoid greetings that involve physical contact such as shaking hands or hugging;
- Ensure a 2-metre distance from others when inside the building;
- Do not share equipment or instruments;
- Do not leave personal items at theGYMC.

Administration of This Policy:

Each tenant organization and Renter is responsible for collecting and maintaining vaccination information and forms, including contact information, from everyone 12 years and older who will be entering theGYMC under their auspices.

TheGYMC expressly reserves the right to change, modify or delete portions of this policy without notice. This policy was developed in cooperation with the Board of Directors of the Guelph Youth Music Centre.

GYMC Management is responsible for the administration of this policy. If any individual has any questions regarding this policy, they may contact the executive director, Gabriella Currie-Ziegler. gabriella@gymc.ca
519-241-9641.