

**Subject:** Covid-19 Updates - March 10, 2022 - BC's Next Steps in Lifting Restrictions

**Date:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 3:30:27 PM Pacific Standard Time

**From:** Ernie Baatz

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## **B.C. takes next step in balanced plan to lift COVID-19 restrictions**

“British Columbians have made tremendous sacrifices and worked hard to do their part over the past two years by following the advice and direction of Dr. Henry,” said Adrian Dix, Minister of Health. “Thanks to high levels of vaccination, decreasing transmission enabled by British Columbians’ resolve and the public health orders we’ve had in place, we are now able to lift more restrictions and continue moving forward as a province.”

**Effective March 11, 2022, at 12:01 a.m.,** the following changes will be made to public health orders:

- Face coverings order: Face coverings will be optional for people in all indoor public settings. People may want to continue wearing a mask based on personal choice.
  - Individual businesses and organizations can choose to continue to require mask wearing on their premises.
- Gatherings and events for faith gatherings: The requirement of faith communities to restrict attendance based on vaccination status is no longer required.
- Indoor common area mask requirements for employees as part of the Workplace Safety Order will no longer be required. Employers may choose to continue to require wearing masks for operational reasons or in certain settings.
- Overnight camps for children and youth order requirements: COVID-19 safety plans are no longer required to be submitted to a medical health officer for overnight camps.
- Masks are encouraged on public transit and BC Ferries but are no longer required under public health order.

**In addition, effective April 8, 2022, at 12:01 a.m.,** the following changes will also be made to public health orders:

- Showing the BC Vaccine Card proof of vaccination to access non-essential events, services and businesses will no longer be required.