In response to requests from clubs with respect to Proof of Vaccination, the purpose of this message is to provide guidance to clubs of our District's recommendation regarding the requirement of proof of vaccination to attend in-person indoor club meetings.

Please note that this is the recommendation of the District and is not a requirement. Clubs, based on consultation with their members are encouraged to decide what is in the best interest of their club members. There should be ongoing dialogue as the situation evolves. Consultation with local Health units and Provincial guidelines should be used to develop club policy. Above all the health and safety of our members has to come first.

As you may be aware, the province has updated the regulations associated with the Reopening Ontario Act to require people to be Fully Vaccinated in order to visit some establishments or use certain services. There is a requirement that indoor meeting spaces ensure everyone in attendance is fully vaccinated. This comes into effect on Wednesday September 22, 2021.

This means that everyone who attends indoor meetings is required to be Fully Vaccinated (as defined below) or have a medical exemption, and they must demonstrate their status through proof of vaccination (government issued certificate) or a document provided by a medical practitioner explaining they are exempt. There are other exemptions for youth.

A person is considered Fully Vaccinated 14 days after their second dose of a 2-dose vaccine (such as Pfizer, Moderna or Oxford/AstraZeneca). A person who has received two different vaccines (such as a first dose of Oxford/AstraZeneca followed by a second dose of Pfizer or Moderna) is Fully Vaccinated

If you go to Ontario COVID-19 vaccination service (ontariohealth.ca) and put in your health card number, you can download copies of your vaccines.

Proof of vaccination can be provided in person when checking into a club meeting or alternatively members may email proof of vaccination to – address provided. Proof of vaccination is only required for the first time attending an indoor meeting. A list will be maintained of members who have provided proof of vaccination.

We also recommend that you consider conducting hybrid meetings to allow an option for those who are unvaccinated or not comfortable attending in person. Vaccination is an emotional topic and the choice to be vaccinated is a personal one. This policy has been established with the goal of providing the highest level of safety to as many members and guests as possible and be in accordance with Provincial guidelines.

Please stay safe.

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Steve Meadley

Rotary District Governor 2021-2022

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