Information on public access to the House of Commons and COVID-19 measures

Effective April 25, 2022, public access to the House of Commons precinct will progressively be reinstated:

- April 25, 2022: Reopening of the public gallery in the Chamber and resumption of public access to committee meeting rooms
- May 20, 2022: Resumption of guided tours (see Visit Canada’s Parliament for the latest information)

As per a decision by the Board of Internal Economy, all individuals wishing to enter the Parliamentary Precinct must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19*. The Board further decided to make the use of masks mandatory on the precinct until at least June 23, 2022.

In accordance with these decisions, the House of Commons has implemented the following public health measures for public visitor access upon entry to the Visitor Welcome Centre, located on Parliament Hill between West Block and the Parliament Building (111 Wellington Street):

- A mask or face covering is required
- Proof of vaccination is required for visitors 12 years of age or older
- Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms must stay home

Masks

Guests and visitors must wear a mask or face covering in the House of Commons precinct at all times, with the following exceptions:

- A person who needs to temporarily remove the mask / face covering to consume food or drink.
- A person who is unable to put on or remove the mask / face covering without the assistance of another person.
- A person who has a medical condition that precludes the safe wearing of a mask / face covering.

Please note that a mask or face covering is also required for Members and their staff, political research office employees, House Administration employees, and members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery, with the exceptions noted above and as follows:
• In the Chamber and committee rooms when Members are at their place during parliamentary proceedings. However, it is strongly recommended that Members wear a mask / face covering when they are at their place during parliamentary proceedings.

• For Members and other individuals participating in a press conference, including scrums, where two-metre physical distancing is possible and observed.

• At workstations / desks in Members’ offices and House Administration offices where two-metre physical distancing is possible and observed.

Proof of vaccination

All individuals 12 years of age or older wishing to enter the Parliamentary Precinct must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19* and provide documentation upon entry.

Visitors from Canada

• Visitors from Canada must present an enhanced vaccine certificate (QR code) and government-issued identification (with date of birth). Documentation can be displayed on a mobile device or printed and will be scanned using the Verify Ontario mobile app.

Visitors from outside Canada

• Visitors from outside Canada who do not have access to an enhanced vaccine certificate (QR code) that can be scanned using the Verify Ontario mobile app must present a valid passport and the following documentation**:

  o Official certificates, passes, cards, receipts, or confirmations showing any first and second doses of COVID-19 vaccine received (QR codes alone will not be accepted).

  The document must show as text:

  ▪ the person’s name
  ▪ the name of the government or organization who administered the vaccine
  ▪ the brand name or any other information that identifies the vaccine(s)
  ▪ the date(s) the person received the vaccine(s)

  All proof of vaccination must be in English, French, or a certified translation into English or French.

* A person is considered fully immunized 14 days after receiving the recommended number of doses of a vaccine or combination of vaccines approved by Health Canada.

** The documentation required for visitors from outside Canada who do not have access to an enhanced vaccine certificate (QR code) that can be scanned using the Verify Ontario mobile app must meet the Government of Canada’s requirements for COVID-19 vaccinated travellers.