

This message has been approved by Tanya Rowell, CEO of the Public Service Commission

-Please post this message for employees who do not have computer access-

Prince Edward Island will be ending the mandate to wear masks in indoor public places on May 6, 2022. **Effective Friday, May 6, [masks will be highly recommended in indoor settings](#)** and will still be required in some high risk areas such as hospitals, long term and community care homes, public transit and for students and staff in K-12 when they are on buses and when not seated in class. Individuals who [test positive for COVID-19](#) will continue to be required to [isolate](#) for 7 days (if fully vaccinated) or 10 days (if not fully vaccinated).

While no longer mandatory as of May 6th, masks are strongly recommended in indoor public settings, especially where services are provided to the public and/or work is performed within close proximity of others. Wearing a mask is a measure to protect you and those around you, and those who wish to continue to wear masks are strongly encouraged to do so, in accordance with guidelines for [wearing masks in the community and workplaces](#).

It is important to note that some departments may have more specific safety requirements regarding masks and other personal protective equipment (PPE) in place, given the nature of their services. This is not meant to supersede that direction.

The “Masks Strongly Recommended” sign is found [here](#) and can be posted on May 6. For services and sites that continue to require masks, the “Face Mask Required” sign can be found [here](#). Sites and services are to ensure appropriate mask signage is posted accordingly at all sites.

It’s extremely important to continue to adhere to [public health measures](#) and the following:

- **Service delivery and planning meetings, gatherings or other events-** Maintain physical distancing where possible and limit crowding among employees and clients. Virtual or remote options are encouraged where appropriate, provided it efficiently and seamlessly meets the needs of clients.
- **Use of physical barriers** – Although no longer required, departments are encouraged to use their discretion and continue to consider measures such as physical distancing. Departments may decide to remove any barriers that negatively impact staff-client interaction.
- **Social distancing** – Limitations to elevators, kitchen areas, washrooms, etc. are not required; however, some worksites may continue some of these measures based on the layout and workplace environment to limit crowding of employees.
- **Remote work:** For employees who can work remotely, seamlessly and without any negative impact on the quality of their work or service they provide, we are strongly encouraging departments to continue to support those employees working remotely, either on a part-time or full-time basis, in accordance with the [Remote Work Guidelines](#). Please follow up with your Supervisor if you have any questions about your specific arrangement.
- Stay home if not feeling well and adhere to [testing](#) and [isolation](#) requirements.

- **If employees have [COVID-19](#), or have [symptoms](#) or concerns about possible COVID-19 exposure, and/or need to be [tested](#), they must talk with their Supervisor as soon as possible. Supervisors are to then work confidentially with their HR Manager to confirm appropriate measures to be taken at the workplace. **Employees are not to return to work until they have consulted with their Supervisor and HR Manager and those who are required to self-isolate are not permitted to enter a Government site.****

If you have further questions or concerns, please contact your Manager or your Human Resource Manager directly to discuss.

Thank you for the continued kindness, respect and understanding you extend to co-workers, clients and Islanders.

Have a great week!

Tanya