

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

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Today, Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Heather Morrison, announced seven new cases of COVID-19 in Prince Edward Island (<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/news/five-new-cases-of-covid-19-schools-re-open-for-in-class-learning-masks-required-in-indoor>) for a total of 34 active cases.

The past few days have served as a stark reminder that COVID-19 is still very much a reality and in order to protect everyone by limiting the importation and spread of COVID-19, **the following additional measures will be implemented, effective 8:00 a.m. on Friday, September 17:**

- Non-medical masks will be mandatory for all Islanders in indoor places. Please see the **updated Civil Service Mask Protocol** at <https://psc.gpei.ca/sites/psc.gpei.ca/files/Mask%20Protocol%20final%20Sept%2016%2021.pdf> and attached.
- **Travel:** PEI residents should not travel off-Island unless it is necessary, **work related out-of-province travel should be restricted to essential travel only.**
- **Public Access:** Public coming into buildings are to be screened with the **updated screening script** found at <https://psc.gpei.ca/sites/psc.gpei.ca/files/Sept%2016%202021%20Govt%20Bldg%20COVID%20Screening%20Tool.pdf> and attached.
- **Meetings:** 6 ft. physical distancing must be maintained, and gatherings are now restricted to 20 people. You are encouraged to meet virtually where feasible.
- **Signage:** COVID Signs at entrances will be changed to indicate mask requirements. **The Face Mask Required sign** can be found at: https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/sites/default/files/publications/masks_required_poster.pdf

We must also continue to adhere to these important public health measures:

- Monitor closely for symptoms, stay home when ill and [get tested](#) and take extra precautions if you experience [even mild symptoms of COVID-19](#).
- Report to your Manager immediately if you have symptoms or concerns about possible COVID-19 exposure or if Public Health has advised that you need to be [tested](#) and/or [self-isolate](#). Anyone who develops symptoms of COVID-19 at work must immediately perform hand hygiene, report to their Manager, avoid contact with staff, leave as soon as it is safe to do so, and arrange to be tested. Managers should then consult with their HR Manager on next steps.
- Ensure 6 ft. physical distancing in your workplace and in common areas such as elevators, hallways, boardrooms, stairs, lunchrooms, etc. This may include staggering lunch breaks, booking larger boardrooms, limiting the number of people in the workplace where necessary by having people work remotely where possible, and limiting public access where appropriate, etc.
- Wash your hands and avoid touching your face with unwashed hands, cover your cough or sneeze with tissues or your sleeve, and ensure enhanced cleaning of commonly touched surfaces.
- Stay informed by checking www.princeedwardisland.ca/covid19 regularly for updates from the Chief Public Health Office.

To make an appointment to get the COVID-19 vaccine at one of the public clinics, go to <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-and-wellness/getting-the-covid-19-vaccine> or call 1-844-975-3303 or you can also make an appointment by contacting one of the 28 [partner](#)

[pharmacies](#) across the province. For information on PEI's COVID-19 vaccine rollout, including vaccine facts and immunization data, visit: [COVID-19 Vaccines](#).

If you have any questions, please reach out to your Manager or HR Manager.

The news of the past few days hasn't been what we wanted to hear, but we will continue to follow the solid guidance of our Chief Public Health Office and dig deep and do what is needed to get through this, together.

Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

You have access to confidential and professional counseling and resources. EAP is here to help and can be reached at (902) 368-5738, toll-free at 1-800-239-3826, or at eap@gov.pe.ca. For more information, please go to <https://psc.gpei.ca/employee-assistance-program>.

Thank you
Tanya