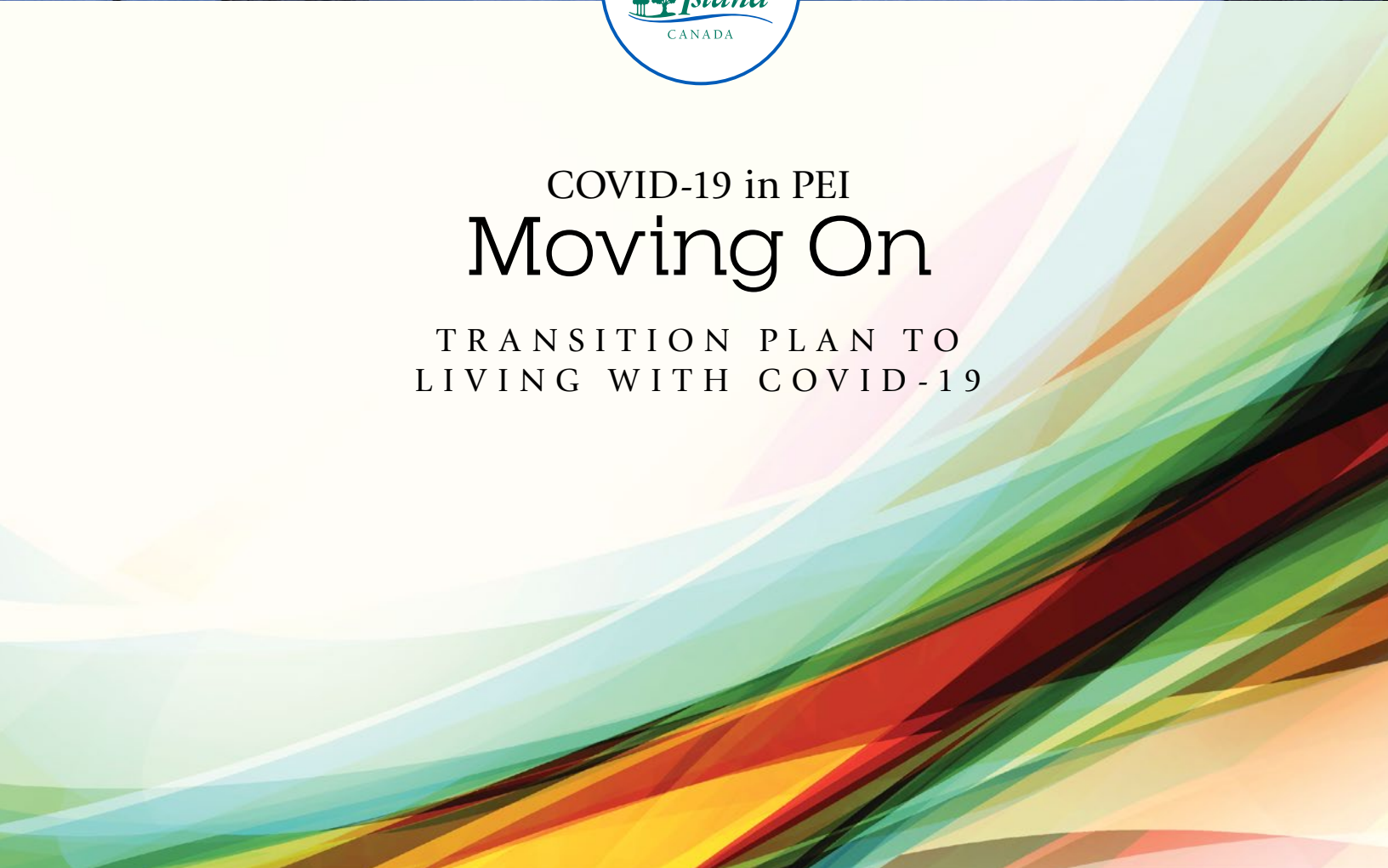




COVID-19 in PEI  
**Moving On**

TRANSITION PLAN TO  
LIVING WITH COVID-19





The COVID-19 situation has continued to evolve over the past two years, and PEI's measures and approach have also evolved to balance the protection of the health of all Islanders with minimizing societal disruption.

Some of the changes since PEI's 2021 Moving Forward plan was released include:

- We have achieved very high rates of vaccination in PEI, and vaccines are now available for children 5-11.
- More transmissible variants of concern, Delta and Omicron, have emerged. Currently, Omicron is the dominant strain in circulation across the globe.
- We know more about how the vaccines protect against serious infection, hospitalization, and death from various variants of COVID-19.
- Oral anti-viral treatments and monoclonal antibody therapies are available for adults without contradictions to help minimize severe outcomes, including hospitalizations.
- Omicron has resulted in the first wave of community transmission of COVID-19 infection in Prince Edward Island, with outbreaks, hospitalizations, and the first deaths related to COVID-19. PEI has needed to respond to this wave by re-implementing restrictions and public health measures.
- Our health system has been challenged over the last few months – all aspects of our system have been strained.

---

*... a new plan to ease public health measures over the coming weeks and months, and ultimately transition out of a public health state-of-emergency ...*

---

As well, public health measures implemented to minimize the impact of COVID-19 can have significant unintended impacts on mental and physical health, children's learning and development, and the economy. As the world prepares to enter its third year of the COVID-19 pandemic, planning to live with COVID-19 and potentially new variants is necessary in the years to come.

All of these factors have led to the need for a new plan to ease public health measures over the coming weeks and months, and ultimately transition out of a public health state-of-emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic to where COVID-19 will continue to circulate, but with vaccines and treatments to protect against severe illness.

What has remained constant are the primary goals of the pandemic response in PEI:

- To minimize serious illness and death, and
- To reduce societal disruption.

Also, Islanders have remained resilient and committed to working together to protect one another.

**This is a transition to recovery.**

The steps we have all taken and continue to take have helped preserve our health system capacity and protect our most vulnerable, and these will still be priorities moving forward. There are still many unknowns and this plan will be adjusted as necessary. We will embrace, as always, a balanced and measured approach to easing of public health measures, while monitoring key trends.



## Considerations

Implementation of this stepwise plan is informed by trends in key indicators including numbers of cases, percent positivity of tests, new outbreaks, hospitalizations and the COVID-19 situation locally, nationally and internationally.

The plan is based on 3-4 weeks between steps and will be adjusted as needed. Dates will be confirmed prior to estimated start date.

### Other key considerations include:

- Ongoing vaccine uptake among Island residents is critical, including booster doses in those age 50 and over.
- General public health measures such as physical distancing and masking as well as testing of travelers at the points of entry will continue to provide a solid foundation for the easing these measures.
- Going forward, we will watch for emerging variants with increased risk of severe disease and monitor and control outbreaks in vulnerable populations. We will need to continue to be prepared to respond as there may be surges in COVID-19 activity and strain on our health system. Vaccine recommendations will also continue to evolve.

Current	Step 1 17 February	Step 2 est. 17 March	Step 3 est. 7 April
<p>Three-four weeks between steps</p> <p>Timeline adjusted as needed to respond to the evolving COVID-19 situation</p> <p>Dates to be confirmed prior to entering a new step</p>			

<b>Current</b>	<b>Step 1</b> 17 February	<b>Step 2</b> est. 17 March	<b>Step 3</b> est. 7 April
----------------	------------------------------	--------------------------------	-------------------------------

### Guidance for all steps

- Get **vaccinated** and **boosted**
- Assess the risk to yourself and to others for **participating in activities**
- **Vulnerable individuals** should exercise caution and minimize high-risk exposures situations
- **Stay home when unwell**
- **Outdoor activities are lower risk** than indoor, and **smaller gatherings are lower risk** than larger gatherings

### Public health measures

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice physical distancing where possible, with people outside of your steady 10.</li> <li>• <b>Masking required in indoor public places and workplaces</b> where distancing cannot be maintained</li> <li>• Employers should support and encourage staff to <b>work from home</b> when operationally possible</li> <li>• <b>Now is not the time to travel if you don't need to.</b> If possible, don't travel if you or your children are not vaccinated</li> <li>• It is recommended to keep gatherings small</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Practice physical distancing, where possible, with people outside of your family and friends.</b></li> <li>• <b>Masking required in indoor public places and workplaces</b> where distancing cannot be maintained</li> <li>• Workplaces should promote distancing among staff</li> <li>• Employers should support <b>work from home</b> options where needed</li> <li>• Assess the risk to yourself and to others before <b>travelling</b></li> </ul>	<p>No anticipated masking requirements</p>
---	---	--

### Personal gatherings

<b>Household + steady 10</b>	Personal gatherings of <b>friends and family up to 20 people</b> indoors and outdoors	Personal gatherings of <b>friends and family up to 20 indoors and 50 outdoors</b>	No anticipated personal gathering limits
------------------------------	---	---	--

Current	Step 1 17 February	Step 2 est. 17 March	Step 3 est. 7 April
---------	-----------------------	-------------------------	------------------------

### Organized gatherings

Spectators and attendees (e.g. worship services, concerts, spectators at sport events)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Up to 50 people</b>, plus staff/officiants, with physical distancing between households/steady 10</li> <li>• <b>No multiple cohorts</b> of 50 permitted</li> <li>• <b>Multi-use facilities</b> can continue with groups of 50 per separate space</li> <li>• PEI Vax Pass in effect for applicable activities and venues</li> <li>• <b>Congregational singing</b> with masks permitted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to <b>50% capacity</b>; organizers required to maximize use of space to allow for as much physical distancing as possible</li> <li>• PEI Vax Pass in effect for applicable activities and organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to <b>75% capacity</b>; organizers required to maximize use of space to allow for as much physical distancing as possible</li> <li>• PEI Vax Pass in effect for applicable activities and gatherings over 200 people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No anticipated gathering limits</li> <li>• No Vax Pass program anticipated</li> </ul>
--	--	---	--

### Receptions and dances

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No wedding, funeral, or stand-up receptions</li> <li>• No dancing or karaoke</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wedding receptions, funeral receptions, stand-up receptions</b>, and organized gatherings with dancing up to 50 individuals total; no multiple cohorts</li> <li>• No dancing or karaoke at food premises or other venues, except as noted above</li> <li>• PEI Vax Pass in effect</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wedding receptions, funeral receptions, stand-up receptions</b>, and organized gatherings with dancing up to 100 individuals total; no multiple cohorts</li> </ul>	<p>No anticipated capacity or gathering limits</p>
--	--	--	--

### Travel isolation and testing

(including PEI residents)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4-day isolation for <b>fully vaccinated</b> individuals, with testing</li> <li>• 8-day isolation for <b>partially vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals</b>, with testing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No isolation for fully vaccinated travelers</b> and children under 12 traveling with fully vaccinated family, with testing on entry and on days 2 and 4 with antigen tests</li> <li>• 8-day isolation for <b>partially vaccinated and unvaccinated travelers</b>, with testing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Testing of travelers</li> <li>• Federal measures may apply</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No testing/screening anticipated at points of entry</li> <li>• Federal measures may apply</li> </ul>
---	---	--	---

Current	Step 1 17 February	Step 2 est. 17 March	Step 3 est. 7 April
---------	-----------------------	-------------------------	------------------------

### Sport and recreation

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Organized gatherings</b> involving interaction between individuals within 2m/6ft permitted with up to 20 consistent individuals, for example:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ team practice and training</li> <li>◆ dance class and other group classes with consistent members</li> <li>◆ cards</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Day camps</b> permitted with up to 20 people (participants and volunteers) over the span of a day; physical distancing and masking maintained where possible</li> <li>• Activities where physical distancing can be maintained would fall within the organized gathering limits</li> <li>• <b>Travel to and from PEI</b> is not permitted for participation in organized recreational activities, such as sports, arts and culture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Organized sport and recreation activities</b> with interaction within 2m/6ft (including games and interprovincial competition) permitted with a maximum of 50 participants interacting over the course of a day, including             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ arts and culture performers</li> <li>◆ games and practices</li> <li>◆ dance classes</li> <li>◆ cards</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Spectators at sport and recreation events</b> follow organized gathering guidance</li> <li>• Individual <b>fitness classes</b> up to 50% capacity; organizers required to maximize use of space to allow for as much distancing as possible</li> <li>• No more restrictions for <b>travel off-Island for sport and recreation</b></li> <li>• <b>Day camps</b> permitted following school cohort numbers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Organized sport and recreation activities</b> with interaction within 2m/6ft (including games and interprovincial competition) permitted with a maximum of 100 participants interacting over the course of a day, including             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ arts and culture performers</li> <li>◆ games and practices</li> <li>◆ dance class and other group classes with consistent members</li> <li>◆ cards</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Spectators at <b>sport and recreation events</b> follow organized gathering guidance</li> <li>• <b>Day camps</b> permitted following school cohort numbers</li> </ul>	<p>No anticipated capacity or gathering limits</p>
--	---	--	--

### Long term care

<p>3 partners in care permitted; in facilities where there is an outbreak, one partner in care can visit</p>	<p>Easing measures will continue to be assessed and prioritized as the situation permits.</p>
--	---

### Education & childcare

<p>As per January 2022 Back-to-School and Child Care Guidance</p>	<p>Easing measures will continue to be assessed and prioritized as the situation permits.</p>
---	---

### Case and contact management

<p>As per guidance for people who have tested positive for COVID-19 and guidance for people identified as close contacts</p>	<p>Easing measures will continue to be assessed and prioritized as the situation permits.</p>
--	---



Current	Step 1 17 February	Step 2 est. 17 March	Step 3 est. 7 April
---------	-----------------------	-------------------------	------------------------

### Business and NGOs

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operational plans required for <b>organizations open to the public</b></li> <li>• <b>Fitness facilities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ up to 50% capacity with physical distancing</li> <li>◆ group classes up to 50 with distancing, or consistent 20 if interaction within 6 ft</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>In-room dining:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ up to 50% capacity with 2m/6ft between tables</li> <li>◆ table size up to 10 individuals</li> <li>◆ food premises and licensed establishments must stop food and beverage service at approximately 11:00 p.m. and close by 12 midnight each night</li> <li>◆ masks must be worn at all times except when actively eating or drinking</li> <li>◆ people must be seated to eat and drink</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Retail, casinos, museums, libraries, etc.:</b> up to 50% capacity with physical distancing</li> <li>• <b>PEI Vax Pass</b> in effect for applicable activities and venues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operational plans required for <b>organizations open to the public</b>; no review and approval of operational plans required, must be made available on request</li> <li>• <b>Fitness facilities, retail, casinos, museums, libraries, etc.:</b> up to 50% capacity; organizers required to maximize use of space to allow for as much physical distancing as possible</li> <li>• <b>Group activities</b> with interaction within 6 ft following sport and recreation guidance</li> <li>• <b>In-room dining:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ up to 50% capacity; organizers required to maximize use of space to allow for as much physical distancing as possible</li> <li>◆ table size up to 20 individuals</li> <li>◆ no more restricted closing time</li> <li>◆ masks must be worn at all times except when actively eating or drinking</li> <li>◆ people must be seated to eat and drink</li> <li>◆ no dance floors or karaoke at food premises or other venues, unless organized gathering of up to 50 persons</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>PEI Vax Pass</b> in effect for applicable activities and venues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operational plans required for <b>organizations open to the public</b>; no review and approval of operational plans, must be made available on request</li> <li>• <b>Fitness facilities, retail, casinos, museums, libraries, etc.:</b> up to 75% capacity; organizers required to maximize use of space to allow for as much physical distancing as possible</li> <li>• <b>In-room dining:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ up to 75% capacity, organizers required to maximize use of space to allow for as much physical distancing as possible</li> <li>◆ no table size restrictions</li> <li>◆ masks must be worn at all times except when actively eating or drinking</li> <li>◆ people must be seated to eat and drink</li> <li>◆ dance floors with small social groups and masking permitted</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>PEI Vax Pass</b> in effect for applicable activities and gatherings over 200 people</li> </ul>	<p>No anticipated restrictions</p>
---	---	--	------------------------------------

### Reporting

<p>Press briefings weekly, daily press releases and updates to COVID-19 case data on website 3x/week</p>	<p>Press briefings as needed, press releases as needed, continued updates to COVID-19 case data on website 3x/week</p>	<p>Press briefings as needed, press releases as needed, continued updates to COVID-19 case data on website weekly</p>
--	--	---

TRANSITION PLAN TO  
LIVING WITH COVID-19

8 FEBRUARY 2022

PrinceEdwardIsland.ca/**Covid19**

---

*... a new plan to ease public health  
measures over the coming weeks and  
months, and ultimately transition out of a  
public health state-of-emergency ...*

---

