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# Agenda

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1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Decision Items:

3.1. Restrictions Exemptions Program	2-8
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4. Adjournment

## Introduction

In the most recent Provincial Health Restrictions relating to the COVID pandemic, the Province of Alberta revealed the need for most businesses and events to consider a Restrictions Exemption Program. If a Restrictions Exemption Program is not put in place certain services and events would have to be cancelled, while other could continue with a requirement for masking, physical distancing and capacity restrictions.

Administration has prepared some information to assist Council in the consideration the potential of implementing Restrictions Exemption Programs in certain Town of Drayton Valley facilities. There has been some information feedback received by the organization. The feedback ranged from those who were solidly against any type of Restrictions Exemption Program to those that are interested in preserving level of service to the extent available. In light of this mixed feedback, it is certain that in-person attendance would be lower in many areas if Council chose to implement a Restrictions Exemption Program, however some programs and services would have to be cancelled without a Restrictions Exemption Program.

## Restrictions Exemption Program

Discretionary events and businesses must follow one of these 2 options:

1. Implement the Restrictions Exemption Program requiring proof of vaccination or negative rapid test result to continue operating as usual, or
2. Follow capacity and operating restrictions as outlined on the page below.

Businesses that implement the Restrictions Exemption Program can operate as usual if they only serve people (ages 12 and over) who have:

- proof of vaccination
  - single dose accepted between September 20 and October 25 if received 2 weeks before time of service
  - double doses required after October 25
- documentation of a medical exemption
- proof of a privately-paid negative PCR or rapid test within 72 hours of service (tests from AHS or Alberta Precision Laboratories not allowed)

Businesses do not need to apply for the program. Audits and enforcement will occur to ensure rules are followed.

The Restriction Exemption Program would not apply to:

- businesses or entities that need to be accessed for daily living
- employees of businesses participating in the program
- children under 12

I would like to be clear that the decision to implement a Restriction Exemption Program does **NOT** impact youth participating in sport. Youth will be able to continue to play and would not be required to show proof of vaccination or negative test results to play.

Youth under the age of 18 who are actively participating in scheduled youth sports would participate without needing to present a vaccine record or a negative PCR test. Please keep in mind that some leagues such as the AJHL and AEHL have their own rules and provincial regulations when it comes to scheduled youth sport COVID protocols.

## Analysis of Restrictions Exemption Programs on Town Facilities and Programs

If a Restriction Exemption Program were implemented in any Town Facility the administration of the program may require additional staff resources to verify documentation. Although a Restriction Exemption Program may lead to reduced in-person attendance and service access for those who remain unvaccinated there are many services that would have to be cancelled with out a Restriction Exemption Program leading to even those vaccinated being unable to participate.

Administration would also note that program and services cancellations effect staffing in the organization. Service and program disruptions during the COVID pandemic has lead to significant disruptions in staffing to date.

Department	Facility	Programs/Operations Impacted/Cancelled
Infrastructure		
	Public Works & Utilities	Restriction Exemption Program does not pertain to facility.  But will continue: Following mandatory mask directive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will remain in cohort teams</li> <li>• Toolbox meetings to be spaced out</li> <li>• Physical distancing in effect</li> </ul>
	Health & Safety / Facilities Maintenance	Restriction Exemption Program does not pertain to facility.  But will continue: Following mandatory mask directive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will remain in cohort teams</li> <li>• Meetings will be spaced out</li> <li>• Physical distancing in effect</li> </ul>
Community Services		
	Omniplex/MCC/ (Fitness Centre will be discussed separately)	With Restriction Exemption Program: All ice groups can move forward, youth and adult <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Birthday Parties will not be cancelled</li> <li>• Building capacity will not be restricted</li> <li>• Curling can move forward</li> <li>• MCC events (Jingle Ball) still can go</li> </ul> Without Restriction Exemption Program: Adult Ice will be cancelled <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Birthday Parties will be cancelled</li> <li>• Curling will be cancelled</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building capacity will be restricted to 1/3 capacity in each respective area</li> <li>• MCC events (Jingle Ball) at 1/3 capacity</li> </ul> <p>Several Municipalities that have implemented Restriction Exemption Program have provided adult volunteers (coaches and parent helpers) the opportunity to be excluded from the Restriction Exemption Program provided they follow all masking, physical distancing and capacity restrictions. (See letter from Mandy Layden at the end of this package)</p> <p>1.) The Drayton Valley Thunder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The AJHL is Exempt thru AHS, their non-vaccinated players have to submit to Rapid Covid test within 48 hours of game times and have that test come back negative. They must follow all AHS directives as Fire Code occupancy, masks, physical distance etc. for the stands/bleachers. A Restriction Exemption Program would apply only to the stands.</li> </ul> <p>2.) Hinton said they implemented a Restriction Exemption Program to allow their youth sports to continue. Meaning, they didn't have enough change rooms to accommodate the social distancing requirement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hinton has 8 dressing rooms compared to Drayton Valley's 11, we would be able to accommodate capacity restrictions for user groups, based on our ice schedule with out a Restriction Exemption Program.</li> </ul>
	FCSS	<p>Restriction Exemption Program does not pertain to facility.</p> <p>But will continue:</p> <p>Following mandatory mask directive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vulnerable population to exercise masking and distancing when entering the office.</li> </ul>
	Park Valley Pool	<p>With Restriction Exemption Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aquapump classes can run</li> <li>• Parented preschool lessons can run</li> <li>• Adult lessons can run</li> <li>• Birthday Parties will not be canceled</li> <li>• Building capacity will not be restricted</li> </ul> <p>Without Restriction Exemption Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aquapump classes will be cancelled</li> <li>• Parented Preschool programs will be cancelled</li> <li>• Adult Lesson will be cancelled</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Birthday Parties will be cancelled</li> <li>• Building capacity will be restricted to 55</li> </ul>
	ECDC	<p>Restriction Exemption Program does not pertain to the facility.</p> <p>But will continue:</p> <p>Following mandatory mask directive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents must wear masks for drop off and pick up</li> <li>• Parents not allowed in program areas.</li> </ul>
Civic Enterprise	Education / Economic Development	<p>With Restriction Exemption Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ U of A Zero Fee Research Meeting</li> <li>○ Northern Lakes College</li> <li>○ Tutoring Services</li> <li>○ Health Care Aide Certificate Program</li> <li>○ Education &amp; Training Open House</li> <li>○ External Business Meetings with non-TODV employees</li> <li>○ Indoor Wedding Ceremonies &amp; Funeral Services (up to a max of 50 people)</li> <li>○ Indoor Weddings &amp; Funeral Receptions</li> <li>○ Outdoor Weddings &amp; Funerals</li> </ul> <p>Without Restriction Exemption Program: Indoor Weddings &amp; Funerals Receptions will not be possible.</p> <p>U of A Zero Fee Research Meeting Northern Lakes College Tutoring Services Health Care Aide Certificate Program Education &amp; training Open House External Business Meetings with non-TODV employees Indoor Wedding Ceremonies &amp; Funeral Services Outdoor Weddings &amp; Funerals</p> <p>Will continue with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following mandatory mask directive</li> <li>• Follow Capacity Restrictions</li> <li>• Physical distancing in effect</li> </ul>
	Energy	<p>Will not be affected and will continue with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following mandatory mask directive</li> <li>• Follow Capacity Restrictions</li> <li>• Physical distancing in effect</li> </ul>

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	Fitness Centre	<p>With Restriction Exemption Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fitness classes can run</li><li>• Building capacity will not be restricted</li></ul> <p>Without Restriction Exemption Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fitness centre classes will be cancelled</li><li>• Building capacity will be restricted to 1/3 capacity in each respective area</li></ul>
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Hello Town Council. Since I wrote my original letter, I have been approached by many parents and coaches about the new rules and exceptions to the rule. I understand this has been a difficult and confusing process for all. The new government information that has been shared with us has been very promising for our youth, ages 12-17, to be able to continue their sports, no matter what their vaccination status is. That is fantastic that all kids are given the same opportunity to participate, as I see first hand as a coach how it positively impacts their mental health!! Such a positive step!!

I have been a coach in DVMH for the past 10 years and I am on the board as the Coach Coordinator for our association. There are many coaches that are concerned about the new rules. If volunteers aren't an exception to the rule, we will lose a lot of qualified, certified, passionate and committed volunteers that have spent years developing a good rapport with these young players. They are coaches the players trust and respect and I am so very proud of the coaches here in our community. The dedication and care they have shown towards the development and well being of their players over the years has been outstanding. I would hate to see players lose the opportunity to have these mentors in their lives.

My preference would be for the Town to adopt the 1/3 capacity approach so that everyone in the community can still attend their children's games and coaches can still coach, while following the safety protocols such as masking and distancing. IF the Town were to decide to follow the REP, which I feel would be very unfortunate for some parents and supporters and possibly coaches, I would ask council to consider following the version that the city of Red Deer has chosen, as they have included volunteers involved with youth sports as an exception to the rule, while they are actively participating in the sport with the youth. It would provide continuity to the players and no interruption in their sports community, as well it would keep the coaches in place that are there already and have always been there for them over the years. They would arrive at the rink next practice with the same people, coaches and atmosphere as they have had for the past few weeks and sometimes years. Some consistency for these young athletes would be fantastic, as they are surrounded by so much uncertainty and upheaval on a daily basis these days. This would ensure that their sport outlet has remained consistent and unchanged. I would love that for all of them.

With that being said, following the 1/3 capacity approach would ensure all parents could be in the stands and cheer on their children, which would be yet another layer of support for these young athletes, as well as coaches would remain in place as is. That would be my vote. 😊

I appreciate all that hockey has done for me as a player and as a coach over the years, and I love giving back to my community and to all of the athletes. I know many coaches feel the exact same, as we have a fantastic core group of coaches here in DV.

Thank you for your time.

Mandy Layden