

Keeping you informed

Benefit plan news for People Corporation plan sponsors

Next step to normal: COVID-19 vaccine passports

As more of us become fully vaccinated against COVID-19, we've started thinking about the next step in re-opening our borders.

Canada's progress

To keep Canadians informed, the national [vaccination tracker](#) features key updates and stats on vaccination administration and coverage. As of June 12, 73.44 per cent of Canada's eligible population had received at least one dose of the vaccine while 14.67 per cent is fully vaccinated.

What is a vaccine passport?

A vaccine passport is a document, card, or digital proof via a mobile app that certifies that the holder has received a particular vaccine. Many countries already require proof that the traveler has been vaccinated against illnesses like yellow fever or polio before they'll allow entrance, or before issuance of an entry visa. before they'll allow entrance. Canada hasn't yet included COVID-19 vaccinated in our existing passport or proposed developing another type of passport for COVID-19.

The benefits and challenges of vaccine passports

The perceived benefits of this type of certificate or passport are:

- Cost savings – currently, in many countries, travelers are required to pay out of pocket for a room at a government approved hotel for the duration of their quarantine
- Ease – ability to travel without the quarantine period of travel restrictions
- Safety – confidence during and after travel

Considerations that need to be weighed before issuing a vaccine passport include:

- Privacy concerns
- Discrimination against people who aren't vaccinated against COVID-19
- Jurisdiction issues – vaccine rollouts are being handled at the provincial government level, but international travel falls into the federal government's jurisdiction

- Determining the situations in which a vaccine passport will be necessary. For instance, for international travel only, or for domestic travel and attending large public events as well

Canadians were asked in an [Ipsos poll](#) how they felt about being required to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination in different situations like concerts, attending university and visiting seniors' facilities. Most Canadians were in favour of vaccine passports for international travel and large events, but there was less support for having to do the same at shops, restaurants, and offices.

For more information, visit our [COVID-19 Information Centre](#) available through our corporate site, or contact your People Corporation benefits consultant.

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