

Keeping you informed

Benefit plan news for People Corporation plan sponsors

Updates: travel and delta variant

As more Canadians become fully vaccinated, the lifting of restrictions is imminent. Let's look at the most recently announced updates.

Canada's progress

To help keep Canadians informed, the national [vaccination tracker](#) features key updates and stats on vaccination administration and coverage. As of July 10, 78.63 per cent of Canada's eligible population had received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine while 50.04 per cent is fully vaccinated.

International travel

As of July 5, fully [vaccinated Canadians](#) and permanent residents of Canada were able to enter Canada without a quarantine period. Canadians are required to show proof of having received both doses of an approved vaccine via the [ArriveCAN](#) app. They'll also be required to produce a negative COVID-19 test before departing from Canada and upon arrival back into Canada. There are no changes to border restrictions for Canadians who haven't been fully vaccinated. The federal government has indicated that when 75% of eligible Canadians are fully vaccinated, border restrictions will be further eased and tourists who are fully vaccinated will be allowed into the country.

Vaccine passport

The [International Civil Aviation Organization](#) has announced that they're working toward creating a digital seal - a secure, protected proof of vaccination that can be used for air travel as many countries require passengers to provide proof that they've been fully vaccinated against COVID-19. The digital seal uses a barcode that's compatible with technologies already in place for identification and verification like ePassport authentication. [Canada is continuing to work](#) with international partners to develop a vaccine verification system for international travel. The Canadian government is still in discussion with the United States and the European Union about updated Canadian vaccine passports which include COVID-19 vaccinations.

In addition to the [ArriveCAN app](#), several provinces have announced plans to provide a mechanism that will allow citizens to access their COVID-19 proof of vaccination for travel. For more information, visit your provincial government's COVID-19 website.

How will the new delta variant affect reopening?

According to the [World Health Organization](#), the delta variant is becoming the dominant variant of cases worldwide. It's more contagious than previous variants and reports show that it causes more severe symptoms. [Experts and health officials say](#) the rise in cases of this variant may affect re-opening plans in Canada and will largely depend on the percentage of eligible Canadians that have been fully vaccinated.

According to researchers in Britain, using the Pfizer vaccine as an example, being fully vaccinated is 96 per cent effective against hospitalization with the delta variant and 88 per cent effective against symptomatic infection. Canadian researchers mirrored that finding; however, a report from Israel suggested protection may be lower at 64 per cent.

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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