Media Release



Timiskaming Health Unit recommends that workplaces create COVID-19 vaccination policies

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Timiskaming Health Unit is recommending that all workplaces in their district create COVID-19 vaccination policies. These policies should apply to staff and to other workers such as volunteers, students, and contractors. Vaccination policies will help protect workplaces from shutting down in the event of an outbreak, prevent workers from getting sick, and encourage more people to get vaccinated.

"We are recommending, in the strongest possible terms, that all local employers create a vaccination policy for workers," said Dr. Glenn Corneil, Acting Medical Officer of Health and CEO for the Timiskaming Health Unit. "While creating a policy is voluntary, it is a critical way to protect workers and we strongly encourage all employers to take this step."

Under a workplace vaccination policy, workers may be required to provide proof of being fully vaccinated, proof of a medical exemption, or to complete a vaccination education course in conjunction with serial asymptomatic rapid antigen testing. Employers should encourage workers to get vaccinated, for instance by sharing information about where to get vaccinated and accommodating time off for staff to get their vaccine.

The Timiskaming Health Unit has created a resource for businesses developing policies. Vaccine policies should be used alongside existing public health measures at workplaces.

For more information, visit Workplaces and Businesses.

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