

## **COVID-19 Update – NB Entering Green – What precautions should remain?**

Dear Members:

### **Going Green**

The Province of NB recently announced that effective 11:59pm on July 30, 2021, the province will not renew the State of Emergency Mandatory Order. This will have the effect of removing all mandated public health and travel restrictions within the Province of NB including the requirement to wear face masks in public. It is important to note that federal border restrictions will remain in effect. In addition, other Canadian provinces may also have different restrictions and you should familiarize yourself with any restrictions/requirements before traveling outside of New Brunswick.

It is important to know that while the risk of COVID-19 transmission has significantly diminished due to increased vaccination rates within this province, **COVID-19 will continue to circulate and remain a risk for all persons.** We would like to remind all REALTORS® and Agent (firms) of the requirement, as an employer, to comply with the Occupational Health and Safety Act. This includes prevention efforts to eliminate or minimize the risk of transmission of communicable disease in your workplace. To this end, NBREA suggests all REALTORS® and Agents (firms) review their current operational plans and transition it to a Communicable Disease Prevention Plan (CDPP). To assist with this process, please refer to the following resources:

| Source         | Resource Link   |
|----------------|---|
| WorkSafe NB    | <a href="#">Communicable Disease Prevention. A guide for New Brunswick Employers</a>    |
| WorkSafe NB    | <a href="#">Green and Beyond: Communicable disease prevention (WorkSafe NB website)</a> |
| Province of NB | <a href="#">Living with COVID-19 Protective Health Measures</a>                         |

Below are a few highlights and best practices that should be considered as you prepare your own CDPP.

- Assess the risk of your staff or clients contracting or spreading communicable diseases. This may include considering vaccination rates within your office; if you work significantly with members of the public; if you have any clients, REALTORS® or staff who are particularly vulnerable, layout of the office etc..
- Designate a lead person to monitor your CDPP and to stay up-to-date on information issued by NB Chief Medical Officer of Health or WorkSafe NB. Continue to evaluate and update your CDPP to reflect changing risk levels and work practices.
- Consider continuing to implement public health measures and practices such as physical distancing, mask wearing, hand-hygiene, enhanced cleaning procedures, contact tracing,

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signage, screening, use of protective barriers, rapid-testing, or any other measures that are suitable to the risk of your business.

- Consider what, if any, additional measures you may put in place during periods of increased risk which would be communicated by Public Health.
- In person open-houses may resume; however, increased public health measures should be implemented in consideration of the potential increased risk.
- Have procedures in place outlining what to do if a REALTOR® or client develops two or more symptoms or is diagnosed with COVID-19 or if they are told by public health to self-isolate.
- Communicate your procedures to all employees, REALTORS® and clients as required.

Keep in mind that while having a *written* Communicable Disease Prevention Plan is not required, a WorkSafe NB officer could request that you describe the prevention measures in place in your organization during a routine WorkSafe NB workplace inspection.

### **Travel Information**

Travel restrictions will be lifted in the province of NB including the requirement to register with the province of NB travel registry. While travel restrictions will be formally lifted in New Brunswick, this may not be the situation in other provinces or countries. Please familiarize yourself with any travel related requirements or restrictions before traveling to other provinces or countries. For current information on Government of Canada travel requirements which includes entering Canada please refer to the following: [COVID-19 Travel, testing, quarantine and borders](#)

### **Vaccination Information**

For those who are interested in learning more about obtaining a COVID-19 vaccine in the Province of NB or how to book and prepare for a vaccine appointment, please click the following link ([Province of NB – Vaccination information.](#)).

### **Information on Mental Health**

It is important to realize that everyone will respond to the transition to Green differently. Some may be excited and eager to resume a normal lifestyle; others will feel stressed, anxious and worried. For anyone who is seeking support for their mental health, the Province of NB has provided a website with a knowledge centre for information related to mental health as well as directory of services in your community. [BridgetheGapp](#)

**We ask all REALTORS® to please continue to be kind and understanding as everyone will have different levels of comfort as we transition into post-pandemic world.**

Thank you for doing your part to protect your clients, your fellow REALTORS® and all New Brunswickers!