



Long Term & Continuing Care
Association of Manitoba

L'Association de soins continus
et à long terme du Manitoba

LTCAM Supports Mandating COVID-19 Vaccines for all staff

December, 2021

The Long Term and Continuing Care Association of Manitoba supports its members in mandating COVID-19 vaccinations for all staff and ancillary & designated caregivers supporting long-term care residents. LTCAM additionally echo's the call its provincial colleagues across Canada have made about mandatory vaccines for all staff across the health care sector, not just in long-term care.

Homes across Canada have implemented infection, prevention and control protocols including educating staff and following all public health measures for homes. Mandatory vaccines represent another important line of defense as homes continue to face challenges as a result of COVID-19.

At this time, the number of long-term care employees who are unvaccinated is the minority of the workforce. Operators of long-term care homes have addressed vaccine hesitancy through employee education and offered support for any barriers preventing employees from becoming vaccinated. We acknowledge the potentially small percentage of staff and essential caregivers for whom the vaccine is medically contraindicated.

Operators are committed to ensure a safe environment for all. Given the impact of COVID-19 on residents in homes and efforts made to support employee vaccination to date, CALTC supports long-term care operators who choose to implement a mandatory vaccine policy for staff and ancillary caregivers as another safeguard against COVID-19.

It is also necessary to recognize the stress staff have undergone over the past seventeen months. The COVID-19 vaccine provides an extra measure of protection for staffing levels in recognition of ongoing challenges in recruitment and retention.

LTCAM members will continue to work with the provincial government to ensure residents, staff and families are kept safe. LTCAM commits to support vaccination uptake, not only for long-term care employees and ancillary caregivers, but also in the community's our homes are a part of, to help limit community spread that threatens friends and families.

For more information about COVID-19 vaccines visit www.canada.ca/PHAC/COVID-19