

Ministry of the Solicitor General
Niagara Detention Centre
Office of the Superintendent

1355 Uppers Lane, Hwy #58
Thorold, Ontario L2V 4A6

Telephone: (905) 227-6321
Facsimile: (905) 227-0032

Ministère du Solliciteur général
Centre de détention du Niagara
Bureau du surintendant

1355 Uppers Lane
Thorold, ON L2V 4A6

Téléphone: (905) 227-6321
Télécopieur: (905) 227-0032



From: Tom Bradley, Superintendent

Date: February 15, 2022

RE: Updated Testing Requirements for Non-Employees

I am writing to advise you of recent updates to the OPS COVID-19 Safe Workplace Directive (the Directive). Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS) has introduced a supplemental directive addressing testing requirements for employees and non-employees who work in congregate living settings, which includes correctional institutions.

As you know, the Directive came into effect on October 1, 2021 and requires all OPS employees to either be fully vaccinated or undergo regular rapid antigen testing. Due to the evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the threat of the Omicron variant, specifically in high-risk settings, the OPS is implementing a supplemental directive requiring anyone working in a congregate living setting, as covered by the supplemental directive, to undergo **regular rapid antigen testing, regardless of vaccination status.**

Furthermore, in limited situations, vaccinated employees outside of a congregate care setting may be directed to undergo rapid antigen testing, as directed by public health and/or third-party requirements.

Municipal Policing/Court Services

Members of Municipal Policing Services who are attending the institution for the purpose of inmate transportation, transfer of custody, pick up, or drop off of inmates in the Admitting and Discharge unit (for court purposes or other) are not required to submit a test result. In these routine transactional occurrences, police or court services are not permitted to enter the facility beyond Admitting and Discharge without having presented a negative result.

If a member of the Police service wishes to meet with an inmate for other purpose such as conducting an interview, they must attend via the appropriate entrance, sign in and present a negative test result.

Timing and Additional Information

This new direction will be enforced starting February 18, 2022 and these requirements will be reviewed for relevancy, necessity, and alignment with public health advice at a minimum on an annual basis.

The OPS is not responsible for ensuring that non-employees have access to testing kits. However, should they not have access and require them, the ministry may supply them. Organizations may be eligible for access to testing kits via the general provincial antigen screening program.

Thank you for your support and the adjustments that your organization is making during this unprecedented time.

Tom Bradley

Tom Bradley
Superintendent

Attachment: *Non-employee Sign-in Steps Poster*
Question and Answer Document