



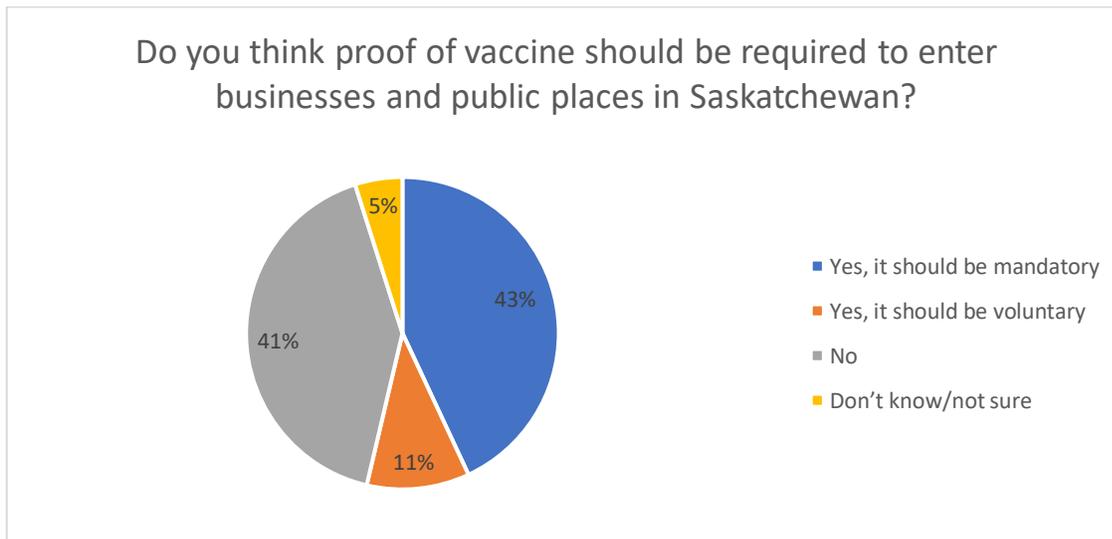
Member Advisory:

Saskatchewan Business Community Shares Their Thoughts on Vaccine Passports and Protocols August 17/2021

Regina, SK – The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce has released the results of its recent survey on vaccine passports and COVID-19 safety protocols.

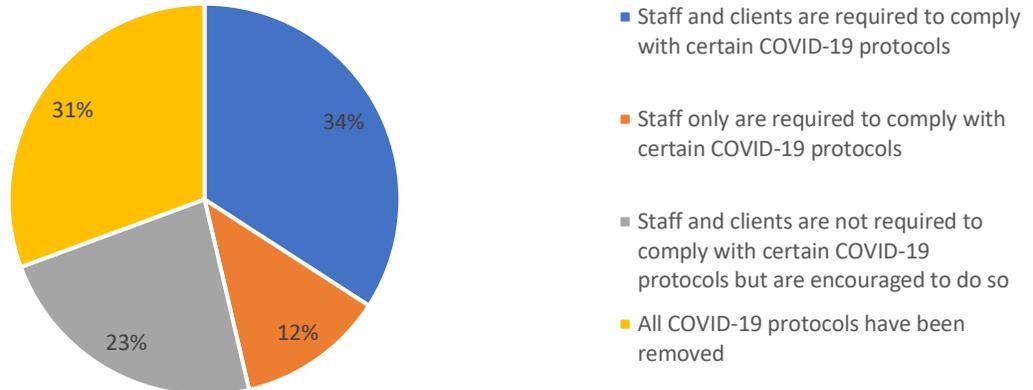
Members of the Saskatchewan business community shared their input on topics such as proof of vaccine verification protocols, current safety protocols, and considerations if a fourth wave of COVID-19 were to trigger more restrictive measures. The survey, which received 369 responses from August 12-13, was conducted through InputSask, Saskatchewan’s business insight community that provides a timely and accurate look into key issues affecting Saskatchewan businesses.

Key Highlights



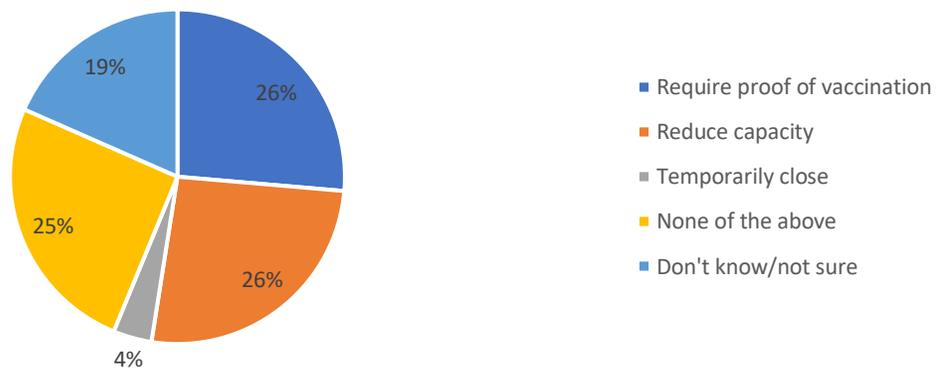
- **43%** of respondents expressed that proof of vaccines through a mechanism such as a certificate or a passport should be made mandatory.
- An almost equal number of respondents (**41%**) expressed that proof of vaccine should not be required to enter business and public places in Saskatchewan.
- 11% of respondents indicated support for proof of vaccine being made voluntary to enter business and public places in Saskatchewan.

Does your business currently enforce any COVID-19 protocols?
(i.e., physical distancing, mask wearing, sanitizing, etc.)?



- Responses indicate a strong commitment to basic COVID-19 protocols, including wearing masks and recommending social distancing.
- While not universally utilized, many businesses indicated that some of these protocols have become part of their daily operations.

If there is a 4th wave of COVID-19 and the government reinstates COVID-19 protocols and/or a lockdown, would your business:



- It should be noted that when the Ministry of Health had previously required businesses to amend their operating protocols, most businesses followed protocols to the full extent required and it is assumed they would again.

The Government of Saskatchewan has indicated that they will not be implementing a vaccine passport; however, eHealth Saskatchewan makes vaccine certificates available to help people prove their vaccination status where it is necessary.

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce has led a call joined by many larger chambers across the country for a vaccine passport program and the discussion in Saskatchewan had also begun amongst business.

The basis of the timing for the survey, as well as the general discussion amongst business and individuals regarding vaccine passports, is in response to the concern of a fourth wave of COVID-19 ramping up to a point where medical health officers would call for renewed lockdowns or closures of some businesses. Because of the challenging state many businesses are in, it is a real concern that further lockdowns would make continuation of those businesses difficult at best, and unsustainable for some.

“The importance of more residents being fully vaccinated cannot be overstated. However, the business community is not of one mind regarding the implementation of any type of vaccine passport. Therefore, the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce will not take a position for or against this concept,” said Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce CEO, Steve McLellan.

“As we have done over the last year, we will continue to encourage businesses to follow safe protocols. Encouraging vaccinations will also remain a priority,” continued McLellan. “We will encourage businesses and individuals to act with respect towards people who choose to wear a mask or limit their participation in crowded environments, and to be as flexible as possible with staff working in-office or at home.”

The COVID-19 challenge is not yet over. As Saskatchewan people have followed the leadership of the Provincial government and adhered to protocols when asked, it is the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce’s belief that future restrictions can be avoided if those protocols currently practiced are continued.

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The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce is the Voice of Saskatchewan Business and represents the interests of over 10,000 individual businesses, industry associations, and local chambers across the province through its chamber network. Information on InputSask and other Chamber advocacy initiatives can be found at saskchamber.com or @SaskChamber on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

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