

# *Information about the Village of Vibank – Mandatory Heritage Building Masking Policy September 14, 2021*

Important information on health and safety measures in our community.

## Face Masks

Effective **September 14**, to protect the health and safety of residents, customers and employees, at this time the Village of Vibank Council Policy 2021-003 mandates, **masks are required when accessing The Village of Vibank Heritage Centre (Convent) and Primary Day Care 101-2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.** Not all indoor Village-operated facilities and services are impacted by this Policy.

Village Council approved the action at its meeting Monday, September 13 as an added safety measure to address the increasing spread of COVID-19 in our community.

**Because face masks may not work in all situations, there are exceptions to this requirement:**

- Anyone with an underlying medical condition or disability which inhibits the ability to wear a face covering or anyone aiding a person with an underlying medical condition or disability where the use of a non-medical face mask would hinder the provision of assistance;
- Person unable to place or remove a mask or face covering without assistance;
- Children under the age of 3 years of age; and
- First responders in an emergency.

## **Protect Yourself and Others - Prevent the Spread of COVID-19**

- [Get tested](#) even if you are experiencing mild symptoms

As a respiratory illness, the best method to protect yourself against COVID-19 is to practice everyday preventive actions including:

- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or the bend of your arm, not your hand
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Maintain safe food practices and avoid sharing cups, glasses, dishes or cutlery
- Clean high-touch surfaces and objects frequently
- Stay home if you are sick and avoid close contact with people who are sick.

### Common Questions:

What happens if someone doesn't have a mask?

- We encourage everyone to bring their own mask, however, the Village will have masks available for use at the Heritage Centre.
- How long will the mask requirement be in place?

The Village Council will assess and re-evaluate health and safety measures and daily Covid numbers. The mask requirement will remain in effect until such time as it is deemed appropriate to remove it.

- Will employees working outside be required to wear masks?

Masks are strongly encouraged but not required for employees working outside.

*Wearing a face covering or mask protects people who are around you. Since some people who are infected with COVID-19 may have the virus and not know it, everyone should wear a face covering or mask. When other people wear a face covering or mask, they are helping to protect you as well.*



**Mandatory Use of Mask or Face Covering within The Village of Vibank Heritage Centre  
- Convent 101 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Vibank, Sask S0G 4Y0**

**Village of Vibank**

**#2021-003**

**Policy Statement**

WHEREAS the World Health Organization has declared a worldwide pandemic regarding the Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19 Pandemic”);

AND WHEREAS Novel Coronavirus is present within the Village of Vibank, and it causes the disease COVID-19 that is readily communicable from person to person and carries a risk of serious complications such as pneumonia or respiratory failure, and may result in death;

AND WHEREAS physical distancing is difficult to maintain in enclosed public spaces and there exists a pressing need for establishments to implement appropriate measures and regulations to better prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health, safety and well-being of the residents of the Village of Vibank within enclosed public spaces;

AND WHEREAS it is believed that the existence of a policy will help educate the public on the importance of a properly worn Face Covering and encourage voluntary compliance;

AND WHEREAS the Village considers it desirable to enact a policy to impose the following regulations requiring businesses and organizations within the Heritage Centre open to the public ensure that persons wear a Face Covering as it is a necessary, recognized, practicable, and effective method to limit the spread of COVID-19 and thereby help protect the health, safety and well-being of the residents of the Village of Vibank;

**Procedure**

**All employees, visitors, patrons and tenants are required to wear a mask or face covering upon entering and remaining within any enclosed public space or common area of the Village of Vibank Heritage Centre. The mask or face covering must cover the nose, mouth and chin.**

Every operator of an enclosed public space (establishment) within the Heritage Building must take reasonable steps to comply with the Policy this includes posting visible signage at all entrances to their establishment and ensuring that anyone entering or remaining in their establishment wears a face covering that covers their nose, mouth and chin.

Every person entering an establishment must actively comply with the Policy and signage posted requiring them to wear a face covering unless exempt.

**Employees must wear appropriate personal protective equipment:** i.e. non-surgical/procedure mask or face shield that provides protection of their nose and mouth if, while in an indoor area, they: **\* are required to come within two metres of another person who is not wearing a mask or face covering in a manner that covers that person's nose, mouth and chin; and are not separated from that person by plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier.**

**Temporary removal of the mask is permitted where necessary for the purposes of:**

\* eating or drinking while sitting down in a designated area, where permitted,

**The following people are exempted from requiring a mask or face covering and will not be required to provide proof of such exemption:**

\* Children under three years of age.

\* Individuals with an underlying medical condition that inhibits their ability to wear a mask or face covering.

\* Individuals who are unable to place, remove, or use a mask or face covering without assistance.

\* Employees and operators of the establishment, in a designed area not for public access or within or behind a physical barrier who are able to maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from every other person in the indoor area.

\* Individuals who are reasonably accommodated by not wearing a mask or face covering in accordance with the SHA.

\* Individuals who are reasonably accommodated under the Canadian Human Rights Code

The Policy will be enforced to ensure compliance and anyone not in compliance may be asked to leave the premises and tenants may be evicted.

Policy Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ **September 13, 2021** \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution # : \_\_\_ **21/253** **Ecartot: Mask must be worn in the Heritage Building ( Convent ) and Primary Day Care and; THAT Administration be Authourized to create a Masking Policy and communications strategy to effectively relay this policy to the residents of Vibank.** \_\_\_\_\_ **CARRIED**

3 For 2 Opposed