



Indigenous Sport & Wellness Ontario - Updated Statement on COVID-19

Toronto, ON – October 28, 2021 — ISWO continues to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic situation in the province of Ontario and bases its decisions on the recommendations provided by public health authorities. Ontario is now in Step 3 of the reopening roadmap, with expanded access to indoor settings, with restrictions, including where there are larger numbers of people and where face coverings can't always be worn. As a result, ISWO is updating their 'Return to Programming' framework, utilizing the guidelines provided by the Government of Ontario and best practices from other Provincial Sport Bodies. ISWO's approach will be 'community specific' and 'community driven,' meaning that staff will be working with communities directly who are interested in programming to ensure that it is safe to do so, as individual communities face varying circumstances in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. Protocols and procedures for all ISWO programming will be implemented with due diligence and in alignment with public health recommendations and restrictions, including proof of vaccination for certain indoor settings and events.

As ISWO works to develop a comprehensive and community-based framework to ensure a full and safe return to programming for all participants and community members, all in-person programming proposals will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. While in-person programming is still quite limited, ISWO encourages youth, families and communities to continue accessing the wide variety of online sport, wellness and leadership programs ISWO has to offer, for all ages and abilities.

For the most up-to-date and accurate information about the COVID-19 pandemic, ISWO suggests the following verified Public Health websites (or a local public health unit):

- [Ontario Public Health](#)
- [Canada Public Health](#)

These verified public health websites provide information on how to continue to keep yourself and your family members safe, what to do in case you develop symptoms, and details about accessing the COVID-19 vaccine. We encourage you to isolate and get tested if you think you may have been exposed or are experiencing symptoms. For more information about COVID-19 testing, please visit: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>. For the most up-to-date information regarding the status of upcoming online/virtual ISWO events, follow us on [social media](#), visit our [website](#), or subscribe to our newsletter and e-blasts.

Stay positive and be well.

Sincerely,

Marc Laliberte
President, Indigenous Sport & Wellness Ontario