



March 9th, 2022

To: Members of the Newfoundland and Labrador College of Optometrists

RE: Changing COVID-19 Mandates

The Newfoundland and Labrador government is making changes to the public health guidelines regarding COVID-19 which have been in place over the last two years during the global pandemic.

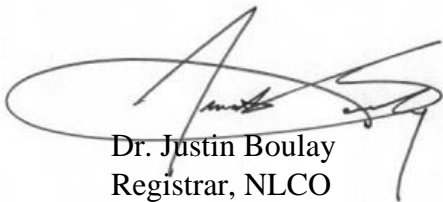
Optometrists have provided and continue to provide in-person, front line, primary eye care to the people of this province. The College of Optometrists takes the health and safety of our members and the public seriously and recommends the following guidelines - which will take effect on March 14th 2022.

Capacity limits in clinics will be lifted, however disinfection protocols previously outlined from the college should continue to be followed (removing toys & magazines from waiting areas, regular cleaning of areas frequented by patients etc.).

Masking is strongly recommended for clinicians, patients and staff in close contact areas such as the examination room, pre-testing rooms, during contact lens fittings and any other area of a clinic where close contact with the public routinely happens. Changes to this recommendation will be re-evaluated over the coming month and is subject to change along with public health guidelines.

The College realizes that the pandemic has tested the resolve of both patients and practitioners however Newfoundland and Labrador has been fortunate in avoiding the worst of the pandemic. As we begin to return to normal the College will continue to provide recommendations to our members in the future.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.



Dr. Justin Boulay
Registrar, NLCO