

**Ministry of Health**

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October 4, 2021

Jason Marchand  
Executive Director, Northern Ontario Hockey Association  
110 Lakeshore Drive  
North Bay, ON P1A 2A8

Dear Mr. Marchand:

I am writing to commend the Northern Ontario Hockey Association's (NOHA) decision to adopt a COVID-19 vaccination policy for the 2021-22 hockey season that requires individuals be fully vaccinated as a condition of participation in NOHA's activities.

COVID-19 vaccination policies are an important strategy for reducing the transmission of COVID-19, reducing the impact of the fourth wave, and preventing the need for stronger public health measures, including business closures. I believe that COVID-19 vaccination policies in organizations such as yours can prevent the transmission of COVID-19 and help you continue your critical work that fosters the physical and mental health of Ontarians, especially in children and youth, which is particularly important during this challenging time.

I understand that adopting COVID-19 vaccination policies can bring implementation challenges and resistance from those impacted, and more broadly. As you navigate this, I wish to provide my full support and an offer to collaborate with the NOHA to address and overcome issues to ensure the successful application of the strong COVID-19 vaccination policy that has been adopted. I believe the NOHA policy can be an example for vaccination policies across the amateur sports sector in Ontario.

Please do not hesitate to reach out at [CMOH@ontario.ca](mailto:CMOH@ontario.ca).

Yours truly,



Kieran Michael Moore, MD, CCFP(EM), FCFP, MPH, DTM&H, FRCPC  
Chief Medical Officer of Health