

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**Sept 1, 2021**  
**FSJ Chamber Update**

The Fort St. John Chamber of Commerce continues to work on the challenges facing our businesses with the implementation of the Vaccine Verification Passport. We provide this update.

- 1) The Chamber Member Survey closed at 9 am, Sept 1
- 2) On Monday August 30, 2021 the Executive Director of the Fort St. John Chamber, Cheryl Montgomery participated in a call with Northern Health to discuss details of the current status of Covid-19 and the upcoming Vaccine Verification Program. Officials were able to clarify several questions we had asked regarding:
  - Rapid Testing being an option.
    - This is not an option due to the number of technicians it requires to administer the test and analyze the results. This is only effective in large organization situations.
  - What other alternatives were considered
    - To the knowledge of the Northern Health Representatives, the only other alternative was total lockdown. Those decision are not in the jurisdiction of Northern Health, as they are being decided by BC Provincial Health Authorities and not local regions.
  - Will Northern Health continue to work with us for implementation for businesses?
    - Northern Health representatives agreed to meet by-weekly for updates on implementation and procedures
  - Are there more Mobile Vaccination Clinics available?
    - Northern Health has increased their mobile vaccination clinics in the region to 5 units. Dates, times and locations are found on the Northern Health website. We asked for increased advertising for awareness of clinics.
  - Vaccine Passport implementation Date
    - Implementation remains at September 13, for all non essential businesses.
- 3) We met with MLA Dan Davies and presented a letter to be delivered to the Premiere on behalf of the Chamber. The Letter will include the results of both surveys taken by the Chamber.
- 4) We will work on details for a Town Hall when more details about the Vaccine Verification Program. Details to follow.

Thank you to all everyone who took part in the surveys.

-30-

**For More Details:**  
**Cheryl Montgomery**

Executive Director  
Fort. St. John and District Chamber of Commerce  
P: 250 785 6037 C: 250 261 4486  
info@FSJChamber.com

*To promote and enhance local businesses to strengthen our communities*