

Powertech: COVID-19 Contractor Vaccination Policy

POLICY

Effective November 22, 2021, Powertech requires the workers and subcontractors of contractors, including suppliers, working at the Powertech Campus, or with Powertech staff at other sites (either a “Powertech workplace”) to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Fully vaccinated is defined as having received a complete vaccine series of a COVID-19 vaccine accepted by Health Canada.

This Policy applies to all Powertech contractors that have workers or subcontractors performing work at a Powertech workplace on or after November 22, 2021, unless an exemption has been granted in accordance with this Policy. Absent an exemption, a Powertech contractor must not allow its workers or subcontractors who are not fully vaccinated to attend a Powertech workplace.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Policy does not apply to:

- Ad-hoc delivery or courier services.
- Work performed exclusively at a contractor office or other location and without Powertech staff being present.
- Site C or other BC Hydro project work where contractors are specifically directed by BC Hydro in writing to follow different procedures.

The COVID-19 Pandemic

The on-going spread of COVID-19 and variants of COVID-19 pose a threat to the health and safety of Powertech employees and British Columbians generally. The presence of the Delta variant has increased the risk of transmission and the consequences of contracting the virus. Vaccination continues to be a safe and effective control measure. Information and guidance from the BC Centre for Disease Control confirms that vaccination offers the best protection against severe illness, hospitalization, and death, and it reduces the risk of transmitting the virus to others. It is imperative that Powertech employees, contractors and visitors are fully vaccinated to protect themselves and each other from the virus.

This policy is an important step that Powertech can take to help control the transmission of COVID-19 in its workplaces and among its employees, contractors, and visitors.

APPLYING THE POLICY

Contractor Acknowledgement

Existing and new contractors are required to submit a signed acknowledgement of this Policy prior to their workers or subcontractors attending any Powertech workplace as of November 22, 2021. The current form of the required acknowledgement (the “Acknowledgement Form”) is available from Powertech Purchasing (purchasing@PowertechLabs.com). Powertech reserves the right to request further acknowledgements from contractors as it considers necessary from time to time in connection with any future changes to this Policy.

Signed Acknowledgement Forms must be submitted to Powertech at purchasing@PowertechLabs.com.

Exemption Process

Contractors may request an exemption from this Policy by submitting a request electronically to Purchasing@PowertechLabs.com. A request should identify the specific contract/work order, specify the name of the Powertech contract representative for the relevant work, and set out the details of and reason for the exemption request, together with any additional information reasonably necessary for Powertech to understand and assess the request.

Powertech will provide written notice of its decision, including any conditions it deems appropriate to minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19 at the relevant Powertech workplace if the exemption is granted.

Powertech expects exemptions to be infrequent and limited in nature and will not consider exemption requests based on personal preference, opinion, philosophy, a belief or opinion about the legality of Powertech’s vaccination policy, or a personal belief about COVID-19 or vaccination.

Until a written decision is rendered by Powertech, the contractor must not send unvaccinated workers covered by the exemption request to any Powertech workplace.

Access to Records

Contractors will obtain and maintain and will furnish to Powertech at any time upon reasonable request, for audit purposes, such evidence or records as are reasonably necessary to establish the contractor’s compliance with this Policy, including any statements made by the contractor in an Acknowledgement Form submitted pursuant to this Policy. Powertech is authorized to collect this information under Part 4 of the Personal Information Protection Act. If you have questions about this collection, you may contact purchasing@PowertechLabs.com.

Future Updates

Powertech will review this Policy periodically and may revise it from time to time as needed to ensure that it continues to support the health and safety of our employees, our contractors, and our customers.