

Safety Update - Maureen Weston

Although the pandemic has officially been declared over for almost a year now, the board of directors would like to remind our membership of the ongoing possibility of contracting a communicable disease when participating in club activities, especially those that include travel. Most club members are seniors and some have compromised health. The latest version of the [CCCTS Communicable Illnesses Policy and Procedures March 2024](#) posted on the website outlines how we can minimize the risk of members becoming ill while participating in club tours and Hub and Spoke events. Key to our approach is the support of the science behind vaccinations, including COVID, flu, shingles, and pneumonia. We encourage all members to be up to date on all vaccinations, and follow health directives from their local governing agency.

Masking in crowded public places, especially while traveling, is also highly recommended. It may mean the difference between enjoying a healthy tour or being sick for the entire time due to exposure while getting to your destination. Even if you are sick for only a few days of the activity, there is a high risk that you may pass along the virus to other members of the group. Unexpected financial costs may also occur if you must suddenly book a single room or remain behind while the group travels to the next destination.

Being up to date on vaccinations and masking while in crowded public places are behaviours that align nicely with the first two statements in our club code of conduct:

- Every member has a role in treating others with respect, courtesy, fairness and equality.
- Every member contributes to the well-being and functioning of the group as a whole; on and off the bike.

Let's work together to keep everyone healthy!

