



International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers

**IRON WORKERS INTERNATIONAL
CANADIAN OFFICE**

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Re: Covid 19 Vaccination policies in Canada

Recently the Canadian office of Ironworkers International has had numerous inquiries from members it represents on what the policy of the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Ironworkers is regarding mandatory testing, vaccination and vaccination passport systems that are occurring across this country.

The position of the Canadian office as with our General officers is that the Canadian Ironworkers support both vaccination and testing in the workplace where mandated. It is both the policy of the Ironworkers Canadian office and the Ontario Ironworkers District Council that mandatory vaccination is a condition of employment for its direct employees.

The Ironworkers International Canadian Office and the Department of Safety and health will work with any incoming policy from any owner-client and/or signatory contractor to determine where members may be disenfranchised from employment and vigorously attend to any grievance that may be applicable through the various collective bargaining agreements across the country as it relates to the health and safety obligations of our employers.

The Iron Workers International and the Ontario Ironworkers District Council will not commit resources toward any vaccine hesitant members and or anti-vaccination positions that rely solely upon a putative human rights complaint.

There are current federal and provincial exemptions to vaccination and the Iron Workers International and Ontario Ironworkers District Council will work to support any member who satisfies the particular government exemption to vaccination that may be disregarded by any employer that may exclude a member from attendance of the workplace.

Vaccination is ultimately every member's personal choice. In the collision of freedoms that is occurring across the country as we negotiate this pandemic, this office will work to support the health and safety of all of our members collectively; and support their rights to attend a safe workplace. Vaccination is the path that leads to the safest workplace as it pertains to the Covid 19 global pandemic.

For further reference on any putative human rights complaint in Ontario please refer to the following link:

http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/news_centre/ohrc-policy-statement-covid-19-vaccine-mandates-and-proof-vaccine-certificates

We will also work to find additional referral for any members who are disenfranchised from work opportunities to areas where the member can work.

Fraternally,



Kevin Bryenton

Executive Director of Canadian Affairs
General Vice President
Ironworkers International
President
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