

Subject: I object to reckless elimination of public health measures

DATE

Dear **(MLA NAME HERE)**: [find your MLA here](#)

I am a resident of **(RIDING)**. I'm writing to object to the July 28 announcement that the Alberta government will be eliminating almost all public health measures in the coming weeks. Particularly reckless is the impact this will have on schools reopening in September. Though I am not a parent of school-aged children, protecting children is a collective responsibility. I believe all members of society have a duty to advocate for the safety and health of kids. There are ~664,000 AB children under age 12 who are not yet eligible for vaccination. The [Canadian Paediatric Society sent an open letter](#) to Dr. Hinshaw stating "the combination of...widespread testing, isolation, contact tracing, physical distancing and masking have proved essential and effective measures to controlling the spread of COVID-19."

Cases are now rising again in Alberta. Vaccination levels have plateaued and we are [lagging behind the national rates](#). Removing isolation of the infected has been decried as anti-science, anti-public health by [medical experts within](#) and outside of Alberta (even outside of Canada, like the [founding editor of the Harvard Public Health Review](#)). Moreover, we are the first jurisdiction in the world to do this. Wilfully and deliberately acting in ways that contravene best practices and putting children at unnecessary risk is nothing short of malpractice.

The science shows that children do contract COVID-19. Some may experience [long-COVID symptoms](#), and the data is still unclear on whether long-term negative development impacts can arise from contracting variants, like Delta. Some experts have even warned this could lead to a widespread [pediatric pandemic as we're seeing in the USA](#).

Every child has a basic right to attend a safe school. Many schools are overcrowded with outdated ventilation and infrastructure due to years of chronic underfunding. Tons of classrooms don't even have windows. Without basic public health measures, we would be conducting a large-scale experiment with the youngest members of our communities.

I demand you do your job and represent us. The UCP government must start governing, and finally acknowledge that COVID-19 spreads in schools. Schools came to a screeching halt not once, but twice last year due to uncontrolled spread. The government must **maintain tracing, isolation, testing, and case number reporting, and further they must provide the resources** to make schools safe as outlined by experts (i.e. ventilation assessments, HEPA filters for classrooms, age-appropriate masking, distancing). As an UCP MLA, staying silent and inactive while watching your "leaders" ram this through will be your legacy if you don't speak up. **(revise for NDP MLA)**.

Signed,

Name here

CC: Jason Kenney, Tyler Shandro, Adriana LaGrange, Support Our Students Alberta
(info@supportourstudents.ca)

Instructions: Copy and paste above text into an email. Customize and edit as needed. Ensure the **YELLOW** text is personalized.