

MEDIA RELEASE

Faculty Welcome Institution Leadership

(x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), səliwətał (Tseil-Waututh), and Stó:lō Territories – Vancouver, BC, August 27, 2021) - The Confederation of University Faculty Associations of BC (CUFA BC) welcomes [the announcement](#) from the Research Universities Council of BC (RUCBC) introducing stronger campus health and safety measures with self-disclosed vaccine status and rapid testing alternatives for all campus community members.

“We welcomed the return of mask mandates announced by the Provincial Health Office this week and we now have the rest of the pieces in place to move forward with developing health and safety measures across the entire campus community,” says President Dr. Daniel Laitsch.

Faculty have been [calling for clarification](#) on emerging Government health measures following a [series of announcements](#) earlier this week that introduced mask mandates and partial vaccine requirements for non-essential activities on campus. We had further called on post-secondary administrators to take action by introducing more robust measures on campus that go beyond the directives from the Provincial Health Office. Now the work of developing these protocols can be done within the framework of consultation with faculty, staff, and students, their representing unions, and the joint occupational health and safety committees.

We look forward to continuing our support of Government, administrators, unions, and other stakeholders in operationalizing campus safety measures that meet the needs of all campus community members.

For further information or comment please contact CUFA BC Executive Director Annabree Fairweather at 604-367-5856 or executive.director@cufa.bc.ca.

CUFA BC represents over 5,500 faculty members, including professors, professional librarians, lecturers, instructors, and other academics at the five research-intensive universities in British Columbia, which include University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, University of Victoria, Royal Roads University and University of Northern British Columbia. CUFA BC [celebrates fifty years](#) of working closely with the member Faculty Associations at each institution. Our purposes are to support high-quality post-secondary education and research in British Columbia and to advocate for the interests of our members.

