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| **ACC media release: September 1, 2021*****For immediate release*** |

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| **AB business not supportive of proof of vaccination mandate** |

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| EDMONTON — A significant majority of Alberta business operators do not support requiring proof of vaccination to access businesses providing non-essential services. This finding came about through a single-issue survey conducted by the Alberta Chambers of Commerce (ACC) on the topic. The survey received nearly 1500 responses in just over 72 hours.Of the 67 per cent of respondents not supportive, the primary reason was that vaccination is a personal choice. Of the 28 per cent who support a vaccination mandate, the primary rationale was that a coordinated approach to stop COVID-19 transmission is necessary to support business activity.A majority of all respondents were concerned about implications for employer rights, employee rights, and hiring to replace employees not willing to work because of a vaccination requirement. |

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| *Overall, 67 per cent of respondents do not support a proof of vaccination mandate while 28 per cent are in favour.* |

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| "The intention of this survey was not to weigh in on one side or the other of the vaccine debate," says ACC President and CEO Ken Kobly. "Rather, we conducted this survey to better understand the challenges and perspectives of business operators—those affected by any decision to mandate proof of vaccination—in this current health environment."Kobly notes that the past year and a half has seen employers and employees shoulder the responsibility for enforcing health orders like mask mandates, often facing abusive behaviour in the process."If the province moves forward with requiring proof of vaccination to access services, the responsibility for enforcement cannot rest with business," says Kobly.Full survey results are available at [https://na2.visioncritical.com:443/insights/shared?767bd9c1a63d4ba4b5864645d17c7881&lang=en-CA](https://na2.visioncritical.com/insights/shared?767bd9c1a63d4ba4b5864645d17c7881&lang=en-CA) |

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| -- 30 --**For comment, please contact:**Heather CliffordPublic Relations and Policy Coordinator(780) 425-4180 ex. 8  hclifford@abchamber.ca |

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| **﻿The Alberta Chambers of Commerce is a federation of 121 community-based chambers of commerce representing more than 24,000 job creators.** |

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