

## **SPECTACULAR 2022 UPDATE**

### **for families of youth eligible to attend SPEC**

It was recently announced SPECTACULAR will return as an in-person event from July 16-23, 2022, at Lamoni, Iowa. Any youth who have finished grades 9 through 12 by June 30, 2022, are eligible to attend.

In past years, youth from Alberta and Saskatchewan have travelled to Ontario and formed Team Canada with the youth from Canada East Mission Centre. Youth from BC travel with the Greater Pacific North West (GPNW) Mission Centre.

The SPEC planning committee has recently provided the following information for Covid-19 protocols and advised what changes will be made in an effort to create a safe environment for SPEC 2022. The mitigation strategies are based on what information is currently available while anticipating the Covid-19 situation will continue to improve. SPEC registration has been delayed to April to allow more time for decision-making.

#### **Vaccination Requirement**

- All attendees at SPEC (*organizers, staff, delegation leaders and campers*) are required to be fully vaccinated. At this date, fully vaccinated means two vaccinations with the second vaccination completed no later than July 1.
- Any medical exceptions must be communicated to SPEC leadership no less than 30 days in advance of the event. Unvaccinated individuals will only be accepted for medical reasons. A previous diagnosis of Covid-19 is not considered a medical reason nor accepted in lieu of a vaccination.
- Individuals who are medically excluded from the vaccination requirement must be tested for Covid-19 and receive a negative test result the day before they arrive on campus.
- Vaccination cards or medical exemptions with negative test results will need to be provided to SPEC registration staff.

#### **Mitigating the Spread of Covid-19**

- Permitted attendance numbers are being reduced by 30%. This means a total of 738 people (*campers and staff*) will be permitted on campus.
- There will be a limit of two people per room.
- The SPEC organizers are recommending a closed campus at Graceland (*no outside visitors*).
- A team of vaccinated staff members will be dedicated to regularly sanitizing high-touch surfaces throughout campus.
- Signage will be placed across campus with tips to prevent the spread of the disease or infection.
- Hand sanitizer will be readily available at all tents, stage, food areas, lounges, restrooms, residence halls, etc.

- All delegation leaders and staff will be notified via email of current guidelines in the week prior to SPEC.
- Masks will be encouraged for all individuals when inside buildings.
- The SPEC organizers are looking at options of moving certain sport activities outside where possible.
- There will be Covid testing available on campus.
- Any individual who tests positive for Covid-19 at SPEC (or during travel to SPEC) will be required to self-isolate. A decision is yet to be made if close contacts will also be required to self-isolate.
- There will be separate living quarters for any individual who must self-isolate.

### **Canada West travel to SPEC**

- GPNW is currently planning to send a delegation to SPEC.
- We are waiting on Canada East Mission Centre to make a decision about its summer programming and whether or not they will be sending a delegation. If Canada East makes the decision to **not** send a delegation, then campers from Alberta and Saskatchewan will not be able to travel as Team Canada. If this happens, we will **explore** options for youth from Alberta and Saskatchewan to travel with another delegation.
- Travel for either delegation includes air travel, travel by bus, overnight lodging at hotel(s) or churches and meals at restaurants or mall food courts while en route to Lamoni.

We are interested in hearing your feedback and feelings about Canadian youth attending SPEC.

**If your household has youth who are eligible to attend SPEC** (finished grade 9 through 12 by the end of June 2022), **please complete [this brief survey](#) by March 1** to help us in our planning and decision-making process.

We will keep you updated as we move along in this decision-making process and anticipate a final decision if Team Canada will attend SPEC will be made by the end of April.

**Lisa Neudorf**  
Gathering Ministries  
Canada West Mission Centre  
[lisa@communityofchrist.ca](mailto:lisa@communityofchrist.ca)