

Theatre Orangeville lifts mask mandate for patrons

By **Sam Odrowski**

Theatre Orangeville announced last Friday (Mar. 10) that its mask mandate is being removed.

The decision came after Theatre Orangeville tallied the results of a recent survey that went out to patrons, requesting feedback on their masking policy.

In light of the results, and in conversations with board members and theatre staff, it became clear to the organization that it is time to remove the mandatory masking mandate, they said in a notice to patrons.

'We will continue to strongly encourage patrons to wear masks in the theatre, but it will no longer be mandatory, effective immediately,' reads the notice by Theatre Orangeville that was issued on Mar. 10. 'We will continue to make masks available to those who choose to wear them in the theatre.'

Theatre Orangeville said it is incredibly grateful to the patrons who have diligently worn their masks since returning to the Opera House a little over 18 months ago.

The organization also acknowledged that it may have valued patrons who have purchased tickets in the past based on the masking policy being in place, and it understand the importance of continuing to ensure their comfort when attending shows.

Theatre Orangeville is currently reviewing remaining show schedules with intent to add additional performances to its runs of The Bluff and The New Canadian Curling Club, that will offer one mandatory masking performance of each show for its patrons to attend to accommodate those not comfortable attending without this policy.

Anyone who would like to be notified when the masked performance is added can email tickets@theatreorangeville.ca to make the request.

Live Streamed performances of each production are also available on [StageTOScreen](#) for those who would rather watch the shows at home.

'Again, we can't thank you enough for supporting us over the past three years. We have been fortunate to remain operational consistently throughout the pandemic - however the challenging times are not yet over,' said Theatre Orangeville in a statement. '**We need your support now more than ever.** Please stay tuned for our 'I Love My Theatre Orangeville' donation campaign which will be launched in the coming days.'