



**Westwinds Music Society**  
Room 38B8 – 2526 Battleford Ave. SW  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

**January 9, 2022**

Re: Covid-19 and our Winter Program

Thank you for your patience with us last week while we evaluated the impact of the holiday season on Covid-19 and the Omicron variant. While I'm pleased to be able to confirm that all of our venues are prepared to welcome us back into their buildings for the second half of the Westwinds season, we face a new surge of Covid-19 cases and much higher transmissibility of this new variant.

The Westwinds Board met Saturday to determine our course of action. We reviewed many comments, questions and recommendations from members and directors, and we understand that many of you have concerns about returning to rehearsal. The board has reached a decision.

The Omicron variant of Covid-19 increases the risk involved with in-person activities and we are constantly reminded that although we are all vaccinated, we can still contract and spread the virus to others. So far, governments and medical science professionals seem unsure as to how best to deal with the Omicron variant, something we hope will change quickly.

For these reasons, your board has made the difficult decision to further delay in-person rehearsals for the second half of the 2021/2022 season until the week of January 31, 2022. As a result, the season will be extended to the end of May, to make up for rehearsals lost in January. As members ourselves, we want to rehearse, and we fervently wish this step did not have to be taken, but we continue to try and act in the best interests of the health and safety of all our members.

We ask two things of our members during this delay. If you plan to return to Westwinds for the second half of the season, please register and pay prior to January 23. We need to determine our numbers in all our ensembles, and every registration is important in determining how we proceed after this delay. Please be assured that should the situation worsen and we are forced to cancel the second half of the 2021/2022 season, all registration fees will be refunded. Please note that you do not have to pay a second \$40 society fee if you paid one in the fall semester.

Secondly, please consider obtaining your Covid booster. While we are not making a booster a condition of membership, we urge all members to consider the booster for the sake of your ongoing health.

Best Regards

Bruce Robin  
President

Jane McLauchlin  
Artistic Director