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## **DRESSING ROOM POLICY UPDATED FOR ONTARIO MINOR HOCKEY TEAMS**

*Policy enhances safety of participants and prioritizes welcoming and inclusive spaces*

**CALGARY, Alberta** - Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO), Hockey Northwestern Ontario (HNO), the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) and Hockey Canada have announced an updated Dressing Room Policy that applies to minor hockey participants and teams in Ontario, effective Feb. 1, 2024.

All participants in hockey should have the right to use the dressing room with their teammates. This updated policy ensures that everyone on a minor hockey team can use the same dressing room by removing barriers that have existed in the past without having to ask for individual accommodations.

Although Hockey Canada and its Members introduced a new Dressing Room Policy ahead of the 2023-24 season, HEO, HNO and OHF temporarily maintained their existing policy until it could be confirmed that the new policy was respectful of a 2016 Ontario human rights settlement involving the Ontario Members.

The updated Dressing Room Policy in Ontario remains in compliance with the Ontario Human Rights Code and is another step in creating welcoming and inclusive spaces for all players, while enhancing the safety of minor hockey participants through proper supervision and minimum attire requirements.

The policy applies to minor hockey associations, including recreational and competitive teams, but does not apply to junior hockey teams.

HEO, HNO and the OHF will conduct educational sessions with associations and coaches this month, prior to the updated policy's implementation in February.

To learn more about Hockey Canada, please visit [HockeyCanada.ca](https://hockeycanada.ca), or follow along through social media on [Facebook](#), [X](#) and [Instagram](#).

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**For more information or to be removed from the media contact list, please contact:**

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