

GUIDANCE FOR VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Overview

Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) Order 25-2020 requires businesses and entities to:

- implement practices to minimize the risk of transmission of infection among attendees;
- provide procedures for rapid response if an attendee develops symptoms of illness;
- ensure that attendees maintain high levels of sanitation and personal hygiene;
- comply, to the extent possible, with any applicable Alberta Health guidance found at: alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx.

Where any part of this guidance is inconsistent or in conflict with enhanced or stronger public health restrictions set out in another CMOH Order, the enhanced or stronger public health measures would prevail. Operators are also required to follow the [General Operational Guidance](#) and any other applicable CMOH orders.

This document has been developed to support virtual event organizers in reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among attendees (including workers, volunteers, and the general public). The guidance provided outlines public health and infection prevention measures specific to these settings.

In all settings, it is important that measures are implemented to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19. This includes, but is not limited to ensuring: physical distancing, barrier use (where appropriate), proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, enhanced cleaning and disinfecting, records management and building maintenance (e.g., ventilation).

COVID-19 Risk Mitigation

General	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A facility may be rented/used for an individual or household’s exclusive use, or for a group of youths to participate in a virtual event or meeting.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Staff of that facility may be present to ensure the operation of the facility.• Masking is required by all Albertans in indoor locations, subject to the exceptions listed in the current CMOH Order.• All Albertans aged 2 and older are required to mask in indoor locations, except if they are participating in a permitted high-intensity activity.• No in-person audiences or spectators are permitted indoors for the filming/broadcasting of virtual events.• Businesses and entities are encouraged to use virtual means to meet.
Virtual Events (including but not limited to: competitions, festivals,	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participation in virtual events is permitted at this time, in accordance with this guidance.• Facilities cannot be rented out to companies for the purposes of hosting, filming or broadcasting an in-person component of a virtual event.

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showcases and performances)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Judges, event organizers and staff, hosts and technical crews are not permitted to be in the same location as the participants or each other.• There can be no “stacking” of participants in a location to film/broadcast for a virtual event• The following participation in virtual events is permitted:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ An individual or household are in their private residence or a location for their exclusive use for the purposes of filming/broadcasts themselves;○ An individual or household in their private residence or a location for their exclusive use is filmed/broadcasted by their coach/trainer/instructor;○ A group of youth are filmed/broadcasted by their adult coach/trainer/instructor(s) (up to 10 individuals including the adult(s)); or○ A group of up to 10 individual outdoors, with 2 metres distance between non-households.• Groups of youth must be groups must maintain 3 metres physical distance between all participants at all times, wear face masks, and comply with the relevant guidance.• Physical activity, performance or recreational activity must adheres to the Guidance for Sport, Fitness and Recreation or the Guidance for Performing Arts.
Work meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work meetings must comply with the mandatory requirement to work-from-home, unless the employer determines the worker’s physical presence at the workplace is required to effectively operate the workplace.• Even when employees are physically present in the work place, to the extent possible, meetings should be held virtually to minimize non-essential person-to-person contact.• Employees should be encouraged to join meetings virtually from their work station or a place where they are 2 metres apart from all other individuals.

This document and the guidance within it is subject to change and will be updated as needed.

Last Revised: April 2021.