

## COVID-19 INFORMATION

# STAGE 2: INDOOR AND OUTDOOR SEATED VENUES

### 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](https://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 operators of indoor and outdoor seated venues (e.g., cinemas, theatres, arenas, stadiums, grandstands, etc.) in reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among attendees (including workers, staff, audience members, and members of the general public). The guidance provided outlines public health and infection prevention control measures specific to these settings and activities.

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, respiratory etiquette, enhanced cleaning and disinfecting, records management and building maintenance (e.g., ventilation).

### COVID-19 Risk Mitigation

#### General Guidance

- All indoor and outdoor seated venues are permitted to have attendance up to 1/3 normal seating capacity.
- Operators must ensure 2 metres' distancing between seating parties, which may include
  - Blocking off seating, having separate entrances and exits, staggered entry times, closing off alternate seats, and creating designated line-up areas.
- Operators should place hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol in convenient locations throughout the facility.
- Operators must enhance cleaning and disinfecting practices as described in the COVID-19 [General Operational Guidance](#).
- Operators must have plans for a rapid response if a staff member or patron becomes symptomatic while in their facility. For more

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	<p>information on what this plan must include, see the <a href="#">General Operational Guidance</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operators must ensure ventilation systems are operational and functioning optimally. Refer to the <a href="#">General Operational Guidance</a> for more information on ventilation.</li> </ul>
<b>Audience and Capacity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attendance must be limited to 1/3 normal seating capacity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the venue is not large enough to maintain 2 metres' physical distancing between seating parties, the organizer must set a lower attendance limit.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Seating parties must be either a household or a person who lives alone and their 2 close contacts.</li> <li>Audience members must stay 2 metres' from others who are not part of their seating party.</li> <li>Audience members must stay seated with their seating parties unless using the washroom or accessing other amenities.</li> <li>Staff, performers/athletes, contractors, etc., do not count towards the 1/3 normal seating capacity limit.</li> </ul>
<b>Masking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For indoor seated venues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audience members must wear a face mask while seated, for the duration of the activity and in all other areas of the venue.</li> <li>Audience members are permitted to remove their face mask when consuming food and beverages.</li> <li>All staff and contractors, etc., must wear a face at all times, unless they are alone in their private workspace and separated from all other employees or patrons by 2 metres or impermeable barriers.</li> <li>Performers/athletes must wear face masks at all times indoors unless rehearsing/performing or doing physical activity.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Face masks are not required in outdoor seated venues, but must be worn in all indoor sections of an outdoor facility (e.g., washrooms, change rooms).</li> </ul>
<b>Food Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audience members are not permitted to consume food and beverages while seated in indoor seated venues.</li> <li>Any food service providers, including beer gardens, food stalls and trucks, and other food service/dining, must follow the <a href="#">Guidance for Food Service and Sales</a>.</li> </ul>
<b>Retail</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any retail providers must follow the <a href="#">Guidance for Retail Businesses</a>.</li> </ul>

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<b>Performance, Sport and Recreational Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If the event includes performance, sport or recreational activities, those activities and their participants must follow the <a href="#">Guidance for Performing Arts</a> or the <a href="#">Guidance for Sport, Fitness and Recreation</a>, respectively.</li></ul>
<b>Drive-ins and Public Outdoor Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Events at outdoor seated venues are permitted to be partnered in conjunction with a drive-in and/or public outdoor gathering event if:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The attendees for each event are kept separate from each other and are not permitted to move from one event to another (i.e., an individual attending the drive-in cannot join the outdoor public gathering event);</li><li>○ The capacity of each event is not exceeded;</li><li>○ Each event has separate:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ entries and exits;</li><li>▪ facilities for washrooms, medical or first aid facilities, concession stands and other food service businesses; retail areas; and ticketing areas.</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• Each event must be operated following its respective guidance on <a href="#">Alberta Biz Connect</a>.</li></ul>

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

Last Revised: June 2021