

GUIDANCE FOR DRIVE-IN STYLE EVENTS

Overview

Under current Chief Medical Officer of Health Orders, businesses and entities are required 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 the [COVID-19 General Relaunch Guidance](#), this guidance, and any other applicable Alberta Health guidance found at: <https://www.alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx>.

This document has been developed to support those planning drive-in style events or performances (e.g., movies, funerals, graduations, theatre, worship) to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among attendees (including workers, volunteers, patrons and the general public). The guidance provided outlines public health and infection prevention and control measures, specific to drive in event.

See the last section of this document for guidance to pair drive-in events with outdoor seated/audience events.

This document and the guidance within it is subject to change and will be updated as needed. Current information related to COVID-19 can be found: <https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>

COVID-19 Risk Mitigation

General Guidance

- Attendees should be encouraged to stay in their vehicle for the duration of the event, if possible, except to collect orders from a concession or use the washroom.
- All washrooms should be maintained in good sanitary condition and equipped with hand washing supplies and/or alcohol-based hand sanitizer with a minimum of 60% alcohol.
 - Where lineups may form for washrooms, physical distancing should be facilitated by the use of markers at 2 metre intervals.
- All attendees within a single vehicle should be from the same household or cohort family.
- Online admission ticketing should be used where possible.

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- Cashless or no-contact payments and transactions should be used to the greatest extent possible, e.g. scan tickets instead of ripping the stub.
- Encourage and facilitate attendees staying up to date with developments related to COVID-19.
- Notify attendees of the steps being taken to prevent the risk of transmission, and the importance of their roles in these measures.
 - COVID-19 signage should be posted or displayed in highly visible locations:
 - “Help prevent the spread” posters are [available](#).
 - When possible, provide necessary information in languages that are preferred by attendees.
- All Albertans must follow CMOH Order 05-2020, which establishes legal requirements for quarantine and isolation.
 - Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19; with a history of international travel in the last 14 days; or with close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days must remain at home.
- Organizers should develop a plan to provide isolation for a symptomatic worker, volunteer if needed.
 - Any attendee who becomes symptomatic during the event must remain in their vehicle and leave the event immediately. Vehicles should be parked in a fashion that facilitates the ability for emergency exit.
- Consider offering virtual attendance options for individuals who are at increased risk for more serious illness after contracting COVID-19, such as the elderly or people who have pre-existing health conditions or are immunocompromised.
- Place additional hands-free garbage bins with removable linings at appropriate locations.
- Operators and attendees should keep up to date with the masking requirements set at the local level.

To support public health contact tracing efforts in the event that an attendee tests positive, organizers should consider collecting the names and contact information of attendees. More information can be found in the [General Relaunch](#) Guidance.

- Providing information is voluntary for attendees. An organization must obtain an individual’s consent and notify them about the purpose and legal authority for the collection.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any personal information that is collected for COVID-19 contact tracing can only be used for this purpose.
<p>Screening & Response Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event organizers should have a plan for attendees who are not complying with event rules or public health expectations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Communicate the public health expectations frequently during the event. ○ Advise attendees that they have an obligation to protect the entertainer and themselves. • Consider implementing active screening of attendees (where applicable) and staff for symptoms of fever, sore throat, cough, runny nose or difficulty breathing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Event organizers may choose to use the Alberta Health Daily Checklist. ○ The Alberta Health Services COVID-19 Self-Assessment tool can be used by attendees to arrange testing. • A rapid response plan sets out a fast-action plan for organizers when an attendee shows symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19. • Staff should be familiar with and follow the organizer’s rapid response plan if an attendee starts feeling symptoms during a shift. This should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Immediately isolating the attendee from others by having them return to their vehicle. Ask the entire carload to proceed to their home(s) immediately. ○ Cleaning and disinfecting all surfaces that the symptomatic attendee may have come into contact with (e.g., washrooms, concession counters).
<p>Physical Distancing</p>	<p>Physical distancing means maintaining a distance of at least 2 metres between attendees who are not from the same household at all times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicles should pull in to designated, well-marked, parking stalls with 2 metres of distance between vehicles to allow attendees to open windows. • Consider the following controls to encourage physical distancing at all times that attendees are outside of their vehicles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Washroom capacity should allow for protection of guests. Consider installing barriers between urinals. ○ Temporary outdoor washroom facilities (e.g., port-a-potty), and line-ups to these facilities, should be spaced appropriately to facilitate 2 metres of distance between guests. • Consider limiting the number of attendees that are permitted to leave their vehicle at any one time.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider shorter performance times (e.g., 90-120 minutes) to reduce demands for washrooms and concessions. Avoid “intermissions”. • Have performers remind attendees of public health expectations (e.g., stay in your vehicle, maintain distancing during washroom breaks). • Direct vehicle and foot traffic to managing lineups. This can be accomplished with signs, markers, ropes, and volunteers/staff. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dedicate entry and exit points.
<p>Shared Items</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where appropriate, eliminate or reduce the number of items at the event that will be handled by multiple people. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This includes programs, flyers, handouts, promotional items, prizes and serving trays. ○ Consider using email or websites to communicate event information. • Any items that will be shared between occupants of more than one vehicle should be appropriately cleaned and disinfected by staff between each use. • Staff should perform hand hygiene before and after handling a shared item.
<p>Food Service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where concessions and food trucks are provided at drive-in events with less than 100 attendees, take precautions at the point of sale to reduce transmission such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Line-ups should be spaced appropriately to facilitate 2 metres of distance between attendees. ○ Physically distance cashiers from patrons or install physical barriers. ○ Enhance the cleaning and disinfection of touch screens at self-service kiosks. ○ Provide single use individually wrapped utensils, condiments, and items such as straws and napkins from behind the counter. • Concessions and food trucks should not be open for walk-up style service where drive-in events host more than 100 people. To distribute concession items safely, organizers may consider the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Distribution of pre-paid food and beverage items as vehicles enter the grounds. ○ Online or call-ahead ordering of food and beverages. ○ Having drive-in staff sell or deliver food and beverages to vehicles. ○ Having the concession or food truck proprietor text or call a patron when their order is ready for pick up at a designated area.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reminding attendees to pick up their concession items and promptly return to their vehicle prior to eating. ○ Eliminating any areas for self-service of condiments (e.g., ketchup, cream, sugar, etc.). ○ There should be no tables or counters for patrons to sit at. ● Applicable requirements set out in the Food Regulation and Food Retail and Foodservices Code must be followed.
<p>Entertainment & Performances</p>	<p>COVID-19 can be transmitted through saliva or respiratory droplets while singing, playing wind instruments, dancing or performing drama in close proximity of others. As such, these activities should be considered to be higher-risk and either postponed or carefully managed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Event organizers should follow the appropriate guidance documents for singing, instrument play, theatre or dance found on Alberta Biz Connect.
<p>When pairing with a seated/audience outdoor event</p>	<p>A drive-in event may be paired with a seated-audience outdoor event when the following considerations are in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A maximum of 200 spectators are permitted for the outdoor seated-audience setting, as long as 2 metres distance is maintained between members of different households or cohorts. ● Organizers should establish mechanisms to ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Individuals do not go between the drive-in and seated-audience components (e.g., have identifying wristbands). ○ Capacity restrictions are maintained for the seated-audience component. ○ Areas where individuals and households from each component may meet (e.g., washroom, concession) have enhanced cleaning/disinfecting; sufficient hand hygiene opportunities (hand sanitizer or hand washing stations); and adequate space to maintain physical distancing. ○ Physical distancing is maintained when attendees enter and exit the event (e.g., staggered timing). ● Refer to the Guidance for Outdoor Events for additional information.