

GUIDANCE FOR INDOOR RECREATION, ENTERTAINMENT AND PLAY CENTRES

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 operators of interactive attractions and entertainment venues, (such as but not limited to arcades, indoor children’s play centres, trampoline parks, bowling alleys, billiard halls, mini-golf courses, laser tag and paintball facilities) in reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among attendees of all ages (including workers, patrons, and the general public). The guidance provided outlines public health and infection prevention and control measures, specific to these settings.

COVID-19 Risk Mitigation

Physical Distancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider implementing the following measures to facilitate physical distancing requirements (2 metres):<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Control points of entry into venues, equipment and amenities.○ Use floor decals or other markers in lineups or other areas where patrons may gather.○ Establish modified facility capacity limits.○ Schedule times for groups to enter and book appointments to limit crowds.○ Limit the number of people playing games or using equipment in groups (e.g. using every other lane/table or seating area to ensure spacing between groups).○ Pre-book sessions online and specify times for entry.○ Install physical barriers, such as acrylic panels, at visitor registration and payment points.○ Establish one-way flow patterns around facilities and amenities where possible to prevent congestion.• All areas should be monitored and supervised to ensure adherence to distancing and hygiene protocols.
Patrons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If patrons show any COVID-19 symptoms, do not allow entry.• Consider posting signs reminding patrons who have returned from international travel in the past 14 days, or who have been in close contact with a known case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days, that they cannot enter the facility.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patrons should be encouraged to wash or sanitize their hands upon arrival; before and after using equipment, amenities and games; or touching other surfaces. • Where food service is available, patrons should be encouraged to eat and be seated in a designated dining area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Keep food out of equipment, game and play areas to minimize the chance that patrons touch their faces or mouths after coming into contact with shared surfaces or equipment. • Patrons can be encouraged to wear masks. • Patrons not using the amenities or equipment (such as parents/guardians supervising children) should remain physically distanced from others outside their cohort.
<p>Facility</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operators should post signs indicating distancing and hygiene expectations. • For enclosed amenities, attractions and equipment, operators should use a sign in/out system to monitor the gathering of patrons. • Hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol should be provided where groups of patrons share common equipment or surfaces (e.g. near bowling lanes, pool tables, arcade games, play structures). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hand sanitizer should be available at facility entrances and exits. • Cashless or no-contact payment should be used to the greatest extent possible. • Consider using floor stickers and temporary barriers to direct the movement of people through the facility to support physical distancing. • Ventilation systems should be operational and functioning both as intended and in compliance with local building code requirements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Open doors and windows where possible. • Operators should enhance cleaning and disinfecting of all high-touch areas including equipment, toys, surfaces, handles, sinks, changing areas, tables, chairs and equipment that are touched by patrons. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Equipment that is rented and returned by patrons should be cleaned and disinfected before allowing another patron to use it. ○ Equipment that cannot be cleaned and disinfected should not be used. • Washrooms should be cleaned and disinfected frequently and whenever complaints of poor sanitation are reported by patrons. • Where provided, public water fountains may remain open and should be cleaned and disinfected frequently. • Consider closing common equipment such as vending

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	<p>machines and equipment rentals if surfaces cannot be routinely cleaned and disinfected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment provided by the facility for accessibility purposes, such as strollers, highchairs and wheelchairs, should be cleaned and disinfected between uses or removed if they cannot be adequately sanitized. • A response plan should be in place in case a patron or staff member develops COVID-19 symptoms while at the venue.
<p>Indoor Children’s Place Centres</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor children’s play spaces that cannot be adequately cleaned or supervised should remain closed to public access. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public access remains prohibited to children’s indoor place spaces that are not under the direct supervision of a staff member or responsible person. • To ensure that physical distancing and enhanced cleaning occur: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Offer private visits for cohort groups, or dedicate certain areas for private parties that families and cohorts can book in advance. ○ Pre-book time slots for use of certain equipment and amenities, and clean between users. • Where possible, rent out equipment for private use outside the facility. • Staff that are assigned to tasks related to children’s indoor place amenities and equipment are expected to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ conduct daily health self-assessments, and ○ be screened for symptoms upon arrival for their shifts. • The facility should reduce the typical capacity of the children’s indoor play area to facilitate physical distancing and supervision. • The direction of movement of children through the amenities and equipment should support physical distancing and minimize face-to-face contact. Strategies to accomplish this include, but are not limited to, floor stickers, signage or temporary barriers. • Cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces and equipment within these amenities should be enhanced. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No access should be allowed to equipment that cannot be effectively cleaned and disinfected (i.e. pits full of plastic balls). • Operators should use a sign in/out system to monitor the number of children using the amenities and facilitate physical distancing. • Hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol should be provided where children and guardians enter the play area. It should also be available near shared equipment and play structures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hand sanitizer is ineffective on visibly soiled hands. When a child’s hands are visibly dirty, the child should be directed to the nearest washroom so that their hands can be thoroughly

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	<p>washed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patrons not using the amenities or equipment (such as parents/guardians supervising children) should remain physically distanced from others who are outside their cohort.• Facility operators should consider whether policies on mask use are necessary for staff and parents/guardians.
Workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff self-assessment, and screening of employees by operators, is highly encouraged.• Staff who interact with patrons at a distance of less than 2 meters should wear non-medical masks.