



December 8, 2020

**RE: Extra Restrictions Due to COVID to Be Reviewed January 5, 2021**

Today, the province announced further restrictions that unfortunately will not only impact your community organization, but also your families as we go into the holiday season.

**The ones that will most likely affect your organization include:**

**Continuing:**

- No indoor or outdoor social gatherings, unless individuals live in the same household; while people who live alone may still have up to two non-household close contacts.
- All outdoor social gatherings are banned but outdoor rinks can remain open. It was stated that Alberta Health will work with rinks to help ensure over crowding will be managed.
- Mandatory masks in all public places and workplaces across the province.
- Funerals and wedding ceremonies will be limited to 10 people, with no social gathering allowed after.
- The continued closure of community halls, banquet facilities and theatres.

**Effective December 13, 2021 at 12:01 am, the following measures will become mandatory:**

- Places of worship will be restricted to 15 per cent of fire code occupancy.
- Recreational facilities such as fitness centres, recreation centres, pools, spas, gyms, studios, camps, indoor rinks and arenas will be closed.
- Casinos, bingo halls, gaming entertainment centres, racing entertainment centres, horse tracks, raceways, bowling alleys, pool halls, legions and private clubs will also be closed. (This will affect you if you have a planned fundraising event at bingos or casinos).
- Mandatory work from home, unless employer determines work requires physical presence for operational effectiveness.

The restrictions do not apply to service visits for caregivers, health- or child-care providers, or co-parenting arrangements.

**These restrictions will be reviewed in 4 weeks (January 5, 2021).**

**Funding Support Announcement:**

The Province will provide additional supports to small and medium business (including non-profits). They are changing the criteria for the "Small and Medium Relaunch Grant". They will be lowering the criteria to qualify to 30% of revenue loss. In addition, the grant will increase from \$5K to a maximum of \$20K. Check it out here:

<https://www.alberta.ca/sme-relaunch-grant.aspx>

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**Here is a list of the other restrictions effective December 13:**

**The following will be closed:**

- Restaurants, pubs, bars, lounges and cafes to in-person service. Only takeout, curbside pickup and delivery services will be permitted.
- Casinos, bingo halls, gaming entertainment centres, racing entertainment centres, horse tracks, raceways, bowling alleys, pool halls, legions and private clubs.
- **Recreational facilities such as fitness centres, recreation centres, pools, spas, gyms, studios, camps, indoor rinks and arenas.**
- Libraries, science centres, interpretive centres, museums, galleries, amusement parks and water parks.
- Businesses offering personal and wellness services such as hair salons, nail salons, tattoo parlours and massage businesses.

**The following will remain open but with new restrictions:**

- Retail business remain open but reduce capacity to 15 per cent of occupancy under the fire code, including malls.
- Regulated health services such as physiotherapy, social or protective services, shelters for vulnerable persons, emergency services and soup kitchens can remain open for in-person attendance.
- Hotels may remain open but must follow all relevant restrictions

To read the actual transcripts: <https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx#statement> or for a quick look: <https://www.alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx>

If you are unclear of what this means for your organization, we encourage you to contact the Biz Connect Team @ <https://www.alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx> (scroll to the bottom of the page). They are returning emails within about 72 hours.

Stay safe and well, you are all in my thoughts.

Sincerely,

Leslie Evans,  
Executive Director

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