Guidance for Holding <u>Inside</u> Worship and Lifecycle Services
Updated: June 15, 2021

Introduction

This guidance is to support people in holding inside lifecycle events including baptisms, wedding ceremonies, medical assistance in dying gatherings, funerals, and Jewish Court Proceedings. This information is aligned with BC's Restart Plan and is subject to change. **Please continue to monitor** the **Provincial Health Officer website** **as it will be updated periodically, as guidance will continue to evolve over the next weeks and months.**

COVID-19 Information

Please continue to monitor the following resources for information on COVID-19 and restrictions in the province:

- For information on COVID-19, vaccine safety and efficacy, data, public health guidance, and more, visit BCCDC.
- For information on the restrictions in place in the province, visit BC's Restart Plan.
- For information on how to get vaccinated against COVID-19, visit GetVaccinated.
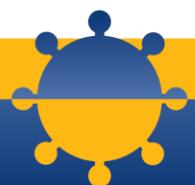
Holding Inside Worship and Lifecycle Services
Updated: June 15, 2021. All services must have a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place.

Services	• Worship services • Wedding ceremonies • Funerals • Baptisms • Jewish Court Proceedings • Medical Assistance in Dying (M.A.I.D.) Gathering
Venue	• Inside locations **OTHER THAN** a person's residence or a vacation rental.

Capacity Limit	• Depending on the venue capacity, indoor services can be held for:
	   • Up to 50 people **OR**
	   • Up to 10% of the capacity of the venue (e.g., a venue that can hold 1,500 people can host services for up to 150 people)
	• This capacity limit includes everyone present in the service, including leaders, officiants, volunteers, soloists, musicians, etc.
	• Up to 4 additional people can be present to help everyone follow the precautions.

Space Between People	• 2.0 metres unless they are from the same household. This may be reduced to 1.2 metres (4 feet) if such spacing is needed to accommodate ritual congregational prayers, if that is part of a congregation's normal religious practice.
Mask Use	• Masks must be worn. • Masks can be removed by the leader, reader, soloist, and/or musical group when speaking, chanting, singing, or playing as long as these individuals are 3 metres away from the congregation or are separated by a physical barrier that blocks droplets.
Before Services	• Participants must be pre-registered; contact information must be collected and retained for 30 days for contact tracing purposes. • Participants must assess their health before attending and should stay home if sick. • Clean and disinfect high-use areas, including tables, chairs, and door handles. • Ensure easy access to handwashing stations or hand sanitizing supplies. • Increase ventilation by opening doors and/or windows where possible.
During Services	• Leaders of the service must wear a mask, removing it only for speaking, chanting, or singing, as long as there is 3 metres distance between the leader and the congregation. • Maintain 1.2 metres (4 feet) distance from those outside your household. • Passing items is not allowed.
Music / Singing	• Only leaders, soloists and musicians can sing / play; only one person at a time may sing – no choirs. • Congregations are not allowed to sing or chant. • There is not a limit on the number of musicians permitted to play instruments.
Food / Drink	• Single serve containers permitted for worship purposes. These containers can be reused if they are properly sanitized in between uses.
After Services	• Everyone should leave the venue after the service. Social gatherings can occur elsewhere under the Gathering and Events Order. • Clean and disinfect high-use areas.
Multiple Services in a Day	• More than one service can occur in a day as long as participants from each service do not interact with one another, and each service must have its own entrances and exits. • If multiple services are organized in the same space, allow enough time (e.g., 15 minutes) to clean the venue before the next service occurs.
Resources	• Health Check • Posters and reference materials

If you have fever, a new cough, or are having difficulty breathing, call 8-1-1.

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