

FAQ as of September 28th, 2020:

HOW IS A 'PUBLIC SPACE' DEFINED?

A public space is any location to which the general public has access. This would include (but is not limited to) retail, restaurants, libraries, common areas of a residential building, private clubs, enclosed pedestrian walkways, areas of a business that greet customers, clinics, etc.

ARE THERE EXCEPTIONS TO THE 10-PERSON LIMIT TO PUBLIC GATHERINGS, PER EARLIER PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS?

Example: essential services as identified in previous public health orders?)

Sectors that already have rules established in existing orders will not be subject to the 10-person limit unless they are explicitly listed in the order. E.g. more than 10 people can be present in a grocery store so long as the grocery store is following all rules in place for that sector.

WHAT ARE MASK USE REQUIREMENTS AND ARE THERE ANY EXCEPTIONS?

Exceptions are anticipated to include: children under 5; certain medical conditions (including breathing or cognitive difficulties or a disability that prevents them from safely wearing a mask); persons who are unable to put on or remove a mask without assistance. Additionally, masks can be temporarily removed for the purpose of: receiving a service that requires removal of the mask, actively engaging in an athletic activity, consuming food/drink, an emergency/medical purpose, establishing identity. Also, there will likely be an exception for employees if they are located behind a non-permeable physical barrier (e.g. plexiglass).

ARE THERE EXPECTATIONS FOR BUSINESSES TO ENFORCE THE PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS? HOW DOES A BUSINESS DEAL WITH CLIENTS REFUSING TO WEAR MASKS?

The operator of an indoor public place must ensure that every person who is not wearing a mask is reminded to do so as soon as practicable. We recommend posting clearly visible signage in multiple locations especially at entrances that reminds patrons of the rules. We do not expect businesses or their employees to put themselves in any situations of enforcement that could be risky to their own safety.

ARE MASKS REQUIRED IN RETAIL STORES?

Masks are required in any indoor location where the general public has access. Retail is accessible to the general public and will therefore be required to follow the new mask rules.

ARE MASKS REQUIRED IN OFFICE SETTINGS?

Mask requirements will apply to any location where the general public has access. If a meeting occurs in a workplace, to which the general public would not have access, the workplace must follow sector-specific guidance but would not be subject to the new mask requirement.

HOW WILL MASK USE REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO SMALL MEETINGS?

Mask requirements will apply to any location where the general public has access. If a meeting occurs in a workplace, to which the general public would not have access, the workplace must follow sector-specific guidance but would not be subject to the new mask requirement. For clarity for the convention centre: masks would be required in any rented

Last Updated: September 28th, 2020

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spaces but would not be required in corporate office sections of the convention centre that cannot be accessed by the public/renters.

ARE OFFICE SETTINGS CONSIDERED PUBLIC GATHERINGS?

Sectors that already have rules established in existing orders will not be subject to the 10-person limit unless they are explicitly listed in the order. E.g. more than 10 people can be present in a grocery store so long as the grocery store is following all rules in place for that sector.

ARE CONSTRUCTION CREWS CONSIDERED PUBLIC GATHERINGS?

Gathering limits do not apply to workplaces. Workplaces such as construction must continue to follow sector specific guidance.

CAN SECTOR COUNCILS PROCEED WITH PLANNED TRAINING SESSIONS?

Yes. The limits for universities, colleges, private vocational institutions and other businesses that provide group training or instruction is: 50% of usual classroom capacity, not to exceed 25.

WILL THE 10-PERSON GATHERING LIMIT APPLY TO THE VAN GOGH EXHIBITION?

The exhibit must adhere to the new PH Order that reduces cohorts from 50 people to 10 people for organized events and gatherings. Masks are required at the exhibit.

HOW WILL THE PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER BE APPLIED TO THE SKYWALK SYSTEM?

The Skywalk is considered to be a public space and therefore all individuals in that space will be required to wear masks. Individuals who are using the Skywalk as a transportation route would not be subject to the 10- person gathering limit. Distinct groupings of more than 10 people would not be permitted.

HOW DOES THE PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER APPLY TO COMMUNITY SPORTS PROGRAMS?

The 10-person limit will not apply to sports programs so long as they are following sector specific guidance. Masks must be worn in sports/recreation areas by all persons except while actively participating in the athletic activity.

DOES THE MANITOBA GOVERNMENT RECOMMEND THAT OFFICES HAVE THEIR WORKERS WORK FROM HOME?

Where possible, remote working can be an excellent mechanism to reduce risks of COVID transmission. We encourage workplaces to consider this as one of many tools they could implement to contribute to lowering the rates of COVID in Manitoba.

For the most current information on sector based guidance for the current Caution Level for your area please [click here](#).

Find more **COVID-19 support and other programs and services
for your business at jointhechamber.ca**