

Reference guide: COVID-19 public health measures and advice

Protections in place across Greater Sudbury, Manitoulin District, and Sudbury District

The provincial *Plan to Safely Reopen Ontario* requires local public health to monitor trends and to put in place additional protections as warranted.

High and growing COVID-19 case rates have prompted Public Health Sudbury & Districts' Medical Officer of Health to require additional protective measures and make strong recommendations to reduce transmission of COVID-19. Unless noted otherwise, these measures are in place as of December 11, 2021.

Instructions issued by the Medical Officer of Health

Requirements within the *Instructions* to persons responsible for a business or organization that is open across Greater Sudbury, Manitoulin District, and Sudbury District are mandatory and legally enforceable under the *Reopening Ontario Act (ROA)*.

Please refer to *O. Reg. 364/20: Rules for areas at step 3 and at the roadmap exit step*. Where the *Instructions* issued by the Medical Officer of Health impose one or more additional requirements not set out in *O. Reg. 364/20* as amended (Ontario's Step 3 Rules), the requirement(s) in the *Instructions* must also be followed.

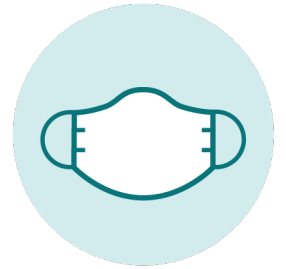
The following provides a summary of recent changes. For complete details, refer to the [*Letter of Instruction \(PDF\)*](#).

Summary of Instructions

Requirements for all

All businesses or organizations that are open across Greater Sudbury, Manitoulin District, and Sudbury District are required to comply with:

- ✓ General **capacity limits** to ensure physical distancing of at least 2 metres
- ✓ **Gathering limits** (social gatherings and organized public events): 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors (see the *Instructions* for complete details about limits that apply to outdoor gatherings and events, by sector)
 - **Note** the distinction between **capacity limits** and **gathering limits**:
 - **Gathering limits** do not apply to all sectors. Where they do apply, sectors shall not host, permit or otherwise participate in a social gathering or organized public event of more than 10 people indoors or more than 25 people outdoors.
 - In some venues there is a requirement to respect **both** gathering and capacity limits and this is specified in the *Instructions*.



For example, the **gathering limit** of 10 people indoors is complied with by a restaurant if the restaurant has a **capacity limit** of 120 persons and it admits 12 such gatherings of 10 persons (no more than 10 per table in this example).

- In other venues only the **capacity limits** and other applicable public health protective measures apply.
 - For example, the capacity limit for members of the public at an indoor cinema or theatre is 50 percent or less of the venue's usual seating capacity; the venue must post signage stating the capacity limit, have a safety plan and require masking and proof of vaccination.
- ✓ Enhanced and reinforced **public health measures** for many businesses and organizations including: active screening, information for contact tracing, masking, and safety plans (including conducting and documenting regular reviews with workers)
 - ✓ Those responsible for organized public events must ensure that every person shall wear a **mask** if they are within two metres distance of another person not part of their household



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- ✓ **Remote work** (e.g. work from home) unless the nature of the work requires a person to be on-site at the workplace
 - For those who cannot work remotely, strengthened workplace health and safety measures, for example, requirements for virtual meetings and staggered breaks to the fullest extent possible
- ✓ Those businesses and facilities identified in [O.Reg. 364/20](#) to have voluntary “opt-in” proof of vaccination for patrons, must require proof of vaccination of patrons as of December 15, 2021. For a complete list of businesses, refer to *O.Reg. 364/20* or see the list at the end of this document*.

Please see the summary of highlights below for some sectors. For complete details for all sectors, see the [Letter of Instruction](#).

Highlights of requirements for some **sectors** (in addition to current sector requirements under O.Reg. 364/20)

Meeting and event spaces are required to comply with:

- ✓ Capacity limits and physical distancing as per the *Instructions*
- ✓ Gathering limits for social gatherings and organized public events
- ✓ Two metres or impermeable barrier between tables
- ✓ Limit of ten persons per table with patrons seated at all times (with exceptions)
- ✓ Patron information for contact tracing
- ✓ Enhanced safety plan
- ✓ Proof of vaccination requirements

Restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments without dance facilities are required to comply with (see Instructions for requirements for those WITH dance facilities):

- ✓ Capacity limits and physical distancing as per the *Instructions*
- ✓ Gathering limits for social gatherings and organized public events
- ✓ Two metres or impermeable barrier between tables
- ✓ Limit of ten persons per table with patrons seated at all times while eating/drinking (with exceptions)
- ✓ No buffets
- ✓ Music at a volume that permits normal conversation
- ✓ Patron information for contact tracing
- ✓ Active screening of patrons
- ✓ Enhanced safety plan
- ✓ Proof of vaccination requirements



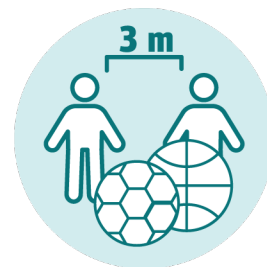
Shopping malls are required to:

- ✓ Capacity limits and physical distancing as per the *Instructions*
- ✓ Gathering limits for social distancing and organized public events
- ✓ No line ups or congregating inside or outside unless two metres distance and masking
- ✓ Music at a volume that permits normal conversation
- ✓ Enhanced safety plan



Indoor facilities used for sports and recreational fitness activities, including areas for spectators and areas where personal physical fitness trainers provide instruction are required to comply with:

- ✓ Capacity limits and physical distancing as per the *Instructions*
- ✓ Gathering limits for social distancing and organized public events
- ✓ Three metres distance between those participating in fitness/exercise class (including personal fitness trainer)
- ✓ Team sports or games must not be played unless modified to avoid personal contact
- ✓ Maximum attendance time at facility of 15 minutes before start of event and 15 minutes following event
- ✓ Participants to be fully or partially dressed to minimize time in change room and to be masked as long as possible before engaging in their sport
- ✓ Patron information for contact tracing
- ✓ Active screening of patrons
- ✓ Enhanced safety plan
- ✓ Proof of vaccination requirements, including for those 12 and over participating in organized sports at indoor facilities

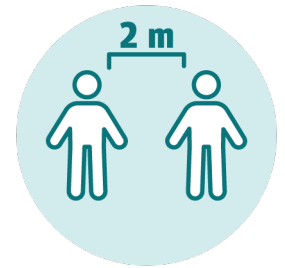


Concert venues, theatres and cinemas are required to comply with:

- ✓ Capacity limits and physical distancing as per the *Instructions*
- ✓ Enhanced safety plan
- ✓ Proof of vaccination requirements

Museums, galleries, science centres, and similar attractions are required to comply with:

- ✓ Capacity limits and physical distancing as per the *Instructions*
- ✓ Gathering limits for social distancing and organized public events
- ✓ Active screening of patrons
- ✓ Enhanced safety plan
- ✓ Proof of vaccination requirements



Strong recommendations for workplaces from the Medical Officer of Health

- ✓ Implement a workplace vaccination policy



Strong recommendations for schools from the Medical Officer of Health

- ✓ Rapid antigen testing (RAT) for students
- ✓ Enhanced protection for extracurricular sports
 - For those aged 5 to 11, require a negative RAT prior to participation
 - For those aged 12 and over, require a negative RAT prior to participation OR proof of vaccination
- ✓ Strengthened health and safety measures
 - Virtual only assemblies in elementary and secondary schools
 - Mandatory masking for students while outdoors if physical distancing cannot be maintained
 - Maintain distancing between cohorts when outdoors as much as possible
 - Pause on school field trips that require group transportation and that are not outdoors
 - Limit visitors into the schools and require strict protocols for those entering
 - Mandatory daily confirmation of symptom screening



Strong recommendations for individuals from the Medical Officer of Health

- ✓ Get vaccinated
- ✓ Wear your mask
- ✓ Keep 2-metres distance from those who are not from your household
- ✓ Make social gatherings in private settings as safe as possible
- ✓ Limit your outings
- ✓ Limit non-essential travel
- ✓ Practise safe retail behaviours – consider pick-up and off-peak shopping hours
- ✓ Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated areas
- ✓ Monitor and screen yourself daily for symptoms of COVID-19
- ✓ Stay home if even mildly unwell
- ✓ Get tested at an assessment centre (PCR test) for COVID-19 if even mildly unwell



Helpful links

- Instructions from Public Health Sudbury & Districts Medical Officer of Health: <https://www.phsd.ca/health-topics-programs/diseases-infections/coronavirus/closures-orders-and-enforcement-covid-19/letters-of-instruction/>
- O. Reg. 364/20: Rules for areas at step 3 and at the roadmap exit step <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/200364>
- Ontario COVID-19 public health measures and advice <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/public-health-measures>
- The provincial [Plan to Safely Reopen Ontario \(PDF\)](#)
- [Workplace vaccination policy template \(PDF\)](#)
- [Letter to Directors of Education \(PDF, November 26, 2021\)](#) from the Medical Officer of Health
- COVID-safety across Greater Sudbury, Manitoulin District, and Sudbury District: <https://www.phsd.ca/health-topics-programs/diseases-infections/coronavirus/covid-safety/>

**Businesses that will require proof of vaccination*

- ✓ Real estate agencies, in respect of open houses hosted by the real estate agency.
- ✓ Businesses that provide personal care services relating to the hair or body, including hair salons and barbershops, manicure and pedicure salons, aesthetician services, piercing services, tanning salons, spas and tattoo studios.
- ✓ Indoor recreational amenities.
- ✓ Outdoor recreational amenities, in respect of indoor clubhouses.
- ✓ Photography studios and services, in respect of indoor areas.
- ✓ Museums, galleries, aquariums, zoos, science centres, landmarks, historic sites, botanical gardens and similar attractions, in respect of indoor areas.
- ✓ Amusement parks, in respect of indoor areas.
- ✓ Fairs, rural exhibitions, festivals and similar events, in respect of indoor areas.
- ✓ Businesses that provide tour and guide services, including guided hunting trips, tastings and tours for wineries, breweries and distilleries, fishing charters, trail riding tours, walking tours and bicycle tours, in respect of indoor areas.
- ✓ Businesses that provide boat tours, if the business is otherwise permitted to operate by the Step 3 Rules.
- ✓ Marinas, boating clubs and other organizations that maintain docking facilities for members or patrons, in respect of indoor areas.