

- Question: Can you provide clarity on the following text from Bill 195 as follows;

“The termination of the provincial emergency declaration under the EMCPA, or the passage of the proposed Act, would not preclude the exercise of the powers under the Health Protection and Promotion Act by Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health or local medical officers of health.

Answer: The new legislation is time limited and within the control of the provincial government whereas the effective period of the bylaws is within the power of local government. The references to public health powers in the commentary is to the general powers.

- Question: In the Letter of Intent - Sec. 7 talks about best efforts, best efforts cannot be found anywhere in the letter.

Answer: We defined what was best efforts, however we didn’t end up using the term in the letter.

- Question: Why issue the face covering directive this way? Why not under the Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. H.7 (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90h07#BK27>)?

Answer: SWPH moved to add our Letter of Instructions from Medical Officer of Health Dr. Joyce Lock to add additional clarity to the existing Ontario Regulation that all businesses are required to adhere to as part of the Reopening Ontario Act, 2020. The instructions within the LOI are not meant to be interpreted in isolation from the other requirements detailed in the comprehensive O.Reg 364/20.

- Question: Would masks be required during Council meetings?

Answer: Yes, masks would be required in enclosed public spaces including council meetings.

- Question: Would the plexiglass barrier at the front desk be sufficient or would masks be required? An example of an insufficient barrier would be plexiglass arrangements that allow members of the public to be within unobstructed reach of employees.

Answer: If the plexiglass barrier provides complete separation between the employee and members of the public it would be considered sufficient, and the employee would not require a face covering, as long as physical distancing from other employees is maintained. In some instances, plexiglass may cover a portion of the service counter but may still allow members of the public to get within 2 metres of the employee with no barrier in place. In this case, a face covering is required to be worn by the employee. Members of the public are still required to wear a face covering.

- Question: Hall rentals – catering of events...is there any additional covid related things that need to be taken into consideration when food is being served at a hall function beyond masking of servers, gloves etc.

Answer: Steps described within the guidance document prepared to support restaurant reopening could be a resource by those looking to cater indoor events. This can be a starting point for organizations looking to support others to use their space to host events with catering involved. Organizations should ensure those that are renting or using the space are aware of and

prepared to adhere to public health guidance described within the document as well as comply with requirements under the Reopening Ontario Act – Phase 3 (for example: no buffet-style service). The maximum number of people for indoor space must be respected in these situations also.

https://swpublichealth.ca/sites/default/files/covid19_guidance_for_restaurants_reopening.pdf

- Question: Zumba classes at community halls – is there any additional covid related things that need to be taken into consideration for a Zumba class taking place indoors...masking, physical distancing etc. will be in place.

Answer: Here are the points from high-intensity classes (which includes Zumba)

- Reduce the overall number of participants in classes to ensure that a minimum distance of 3 metres (10 feet) is maintained in all directions of each participant.
 - o Increase physical distance, or install physical barriers, between the instructor and participants. COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Sports and Recreational Fitness Facilities Southwestern Public Health 1-800-922-0096 www.swpublichealth.ca
- Participants should be encouraged to bring their own equipment. If this is not possible, equipment provided should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between uses. Ensure that adequate time is allowed for proper cleaning and disinfection.
- Instructors should be assigned and wear microphones to reduce the need for shouting. Participants singing along to the music or shout back at the instructor should be discouraged.
- Consider creating cohorts of classmates by assigning specific times for the same participants to partake in classes.
- Reduce opportunities for classmates to gather before and after a class within the facility.
- Ensure group fitness classrooms are well ventilated (e.g. open windows if possible).

Masks can temporarily be removed while engaging in physical activity that would inhibit the person's ability to breathe, but need to be put back on once the activity is done.

- Question: Can those staying in shelters remove masks to sleep?

Answer: Yes, they may sleep without a mask as long as physical distancing is maintained. As a congregate living setting, a shelter is a cross between a public and a private space and more flexibility in application of the LOI is appropriate.