

Communicable Disease Prevention Plan



Last updated: March 2022

Communicable Disease Prevention Plan | Canucks Autism Network

Hello CAN Participants, Families, Staff and Volunteers,

Thank you for your ongoing patience and support. Our team continues to work hard to ensure that CAN programs are offered in accordance with the latest provincial health guidelines.

As we recognize that the recommendations from health authorities are evolving on an ongoing basis; we are updating our procedures to ensure that CAN programs are either in line with, or exceed, the best practice safety guidelines from all relevant sectors.

Thank you for continuing to pay close attention to our updated program safety procedures.

IMPORTANT UPDATES:

- **Proof Of Vaccination:**
 - At this time, proof of vaccination is required for anyone over 12 years old (including spectators) in recreation facilities such as pools, arenas and fitness centres; however, this order is expected to expire on April 8th 2022.
 - *Please check with the facility where your CAN program is hosted for the latest updates, as proof of vaccination requirements may vary.*
 - **It is the responsibility of all CAN program participants and anyone who accompanies them to a program, as well as staff and volunteers, to be aware of and follow health orders and/or other rules specific to each facility where programs are hosted.**
- **Masks**
 - As of March 11 2022, provincial health orders have been amended and masks are no longer required in indoor public spaces.
 - Please note that **masks may continue to be required in some facilities** where CAN programs are hosted.
 - **It is the responsibility of CAN program participants and anyone who accompanies them to a program, as well as all staff and volunteers, to follow all facility-specific rules regarding mask use.**
 - We recognize that all persons participating in CAN programs may have varying levels of comfort with wearing or not wearing a mask. Anyone who

wishes to is welcome to wear a mask. We ask that everyone please respect and support each others' decision.

- For safety reasons, mask use is prohibited in aquatic environments (i.e. while swimming).

- **Health Screening:**
 - **Please stay home if you are sick.**
 - All program participants, staff and volunteers are asked to self-assess for COVID-19 symptoms before leaving home to attend their program. Please do not attend a CAN program if you have any symptoms of COVID-19.

- **Physical Distancing**
 - Physical distancing is no longer required while participating in CAN programs.

Please read the rest of this document for a review of our ongoing safety protocols. Thank you again for your support with keeping CAN programs safe!





This document outlines the safety measures that participants are expected to follow prior to arriving and while at the program, as well as processes that our staff and volunteers will implement when delivering the in-person programs.

These measures have been established in accordance with recommendations from WorkSafe BC, the Provincial Health Authority of BC, viaSport and BC Parks and Recreation Association.

To participate in CAN programs, you must read and agree to the terms and protocols outlined in this document.

Protocol Prior to Arriving at Program

Participants, staff and volunteers must self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms in accordance with BCCDC Guidelines before arriving at each session. **Participants, staff and volunteers should not attend the program if they are sick.**



Health Protocols at Programs

HANDWASHING

Rigorous hand washing with plain soap and water is the most effective way to reduce the spread of illness. To ensure program safety, everyone must practice diligent hand hygiene. CAN staff will encourage and reinforce these practices with participants regularly during the program.

Participants will be required to wash or sanitize their hands in all of the following situations:

- After using the toilet
- After sneezing or coughing
- Before eating any food. Participants are advised to avoid bringing snacks to CAN programs at this time.
- Whenever hands appear visibly dirty
- After contact with bodily fluids (i.e., runny noses, spit, vomit, blood)
- When putting on or removing masks (if the participant is wearing a mask)

RESPIRATORY AND PERSONAL HYGIENE

Respiratory hygiene is also essential for program safety. Participants, staff, and volunteers who need to cough/sneeze must do so into their elbow sleeve or a tissue, refrain from touching their face, and wash hands immediately.



MASKS

Provincial health orders have been updated as of March 11, 2022. Masks are now optional in indoor public spaces. However, **please note that some facilities may continue to require masks.** All CAN program participants will be required to follow facility-specific rules. Exemptions may be possible.

Anyone who wishes to wear a mask during any CAN program is welcome to, with the exception of aquatic environments, where masks are prohibited for safety reasons.

ILLNESS ON SITE

Participants, staff, and volunteers who become ill must leave the program immediately. Participant who exhibit signs of illness will be guided into the facility-designated quarantine area, as determined in the facility's own communicable disease prevention plans. Parents/guardians will be notified and asked to pick-up the participant immediately.

CAN staff who supervise the participant while they wait to be picked up will be encouraged to wear a mask. The participant will also be asked to wear a mask and maintain physical distancing.

Staffing Protocols and Procedures

PLANNING PROGRAMS

As a rental group, CAN will work with facilities to understand and incorporate facility-specific protocols. All recreation facilities in BC are required to have communicable disease prevention plans, in accordance with guidelines set by BCRPA and WorkSafe BC.

To ensure that CAN staff are familiar with these facility-specific plans, Onsite Supervisors will be required to complete a review of facility-specific protocols as part of each facility orientation.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

CAN will be delivering mandatory safety protocols training for all CAN staff and volunteers. This will ensure that all staff and volunteers are familiar with the safety requirements in CAN programs.



Questions or concerns?

If you have any questions or concerns about this document, please email: info@canucksautism.ca