

## Gathering restrictions (as of July 20, 2020)

Alberta is currently in stage two of its relaunch strategy which was launched on June 12. In stage two, Albertans can enjoy more indoor and outdoor activities, while observing public health orders on gathering sizes and physical distancing.

The following measures remain to protect Albertans' health and limit the spread of COVID-19 in stage two:

- 50 people maximum for indoor social gatherings which includes wedding and funeral receptions, birthday parties.
- 200 people maximum for audience-type community outdoor events, such as festivals, firework displays, rodeos and sporting events, and outdoor performances
- 100 people maximum for outdoor events and indoor seated/audience events, including wedding ceremonies, funeral services, movie theatres, arts and culture performances and other events where people remain seated.
- There is no limit on the number of people attending worship gatherings (congregational singing is a high-risk activity and is discouraged), restaurants, cafes, lounges, bars, as well as casinos and bingo halls, provided public health measures are in place.
- Households can increase their close interactions with other cohort households to a maximum of 15 people.

Everyone at a gathering of any kind should maintain the recommended physical distance and observe public health recommendations such as frequent hand-washing. Albertans are encouraged to wear a mask in public when it's difficult to maintain physical distancing of 2 metres at all times.

As mentioned, worship leaders may now offer in-person services with no cap on attendance - as long as physical distancing of two metres is maintained between families and household groups. However, congregational singing is a high-risk activity and is discouraged. Consider a soloist or instrumental music instead.

Here are some ways to reduce the risk at gatherings:

- People who have any symptoms should not attend. Encourage anyone with symptoms to get tested and stay home from work or family gatherings until they are feeling better.
- Either reduce the number of people taking part, or change the location to make physical distancing easier. Albertans are encouraged to wear a mask in public when it's difficult to maintain physical distancing of 2 metres at all times.
- Stagger the time of arrivals and departures from gatherings so that not everyone is there at the same time.
- Make sure there is plenty of access to handwashing stations or alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Have someone responsible to frequently clean surfaces that are touched often.
- Promote practices like coughing and sneezing into your elbow and washing your hands often.
- Contact [Alberta Health Services Environmental Public Health](#) before doing any volunteer projects that involve preparing food or collecting donations. These types of activities can spread COVID-19.

Thank you for your co-operation in helping to prevent the spread of COVID-19.