

GUIDANCE FOR PLAYGROUNDS

Overview

Under current Chief Medical Officer of Health Orders, businesses and entities are required to:

- implement practices to minimize the risk of transmission of infection among attendees;
- provide procedures for rapid response if an attendee develops symptoms of illness;
- ensure that attendees maintain high levels of sanitation and personal hygiene;
- comply, to the extent possible, with the [COVID-19 General Relaunch Guidance](#), this guidance, and any other applicable Alberta Health guidance found at: <https://www.alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx>.

This document has been developed to support playground users, municipalities and school divisions in reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among attendees. The guidance provided outlines public health and infection prevention and control measures, specific to this setting.

This document and the guidance within it is subject to change and will be updated as needed. Current information related to COVID-19 can be found: <https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-information.aspx>

COVID-19 Risk Mitigation

General Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage and facilitate attendees to stay up to date with developments related to COVID-19.• Notify attendees of the steps being taken to prevent the risk of transmission, and the importance of their roles in these measures.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ COVID-19 signage should be posted in highly visible locations:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ “Help prevent the spread” posters are available.▪ When possible, provide necessary information in languages that are preferred by attendees.○ Encourage attendees to download the ABTraceTogether app to help let them know if they've been exposed to COVID-19.• All Albertans must follow CMOH Order 05-2020, which establishes legal requirements for quarantine and isolation.• Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19; with a history of international travel in the last 14 days; or with close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days must remain at home.
Screening and Physical Distancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post signs that instruct those who may have been exposed to COVID-19 to not enter.• Those who are sick or have symptoms related to COVID-19 must not use playgrounds.• Physical distancing means maintaining a distance of at least 2 metres between attendees who are not from the same household at all times.

GUIDANCE FOR PLAYGROUNDS

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground users should maintain physical distancing at all times. • Signage should be posted to remind users of gathering restrictions and physical distancing requirements. • Maintain physical distancing and limit congregating with other people when entering and leaving the playground and supervising children playing (e.g. paths, benches, picnic areas). • Consider limiting children and other members of your household to only visiting playgrounds that are close to your home. This will help limit the number of people your family may come into contact with. • Consider physical controls to support spacing of at least 2 metres. Operators should consider the following and implement appropriate controls: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing or removing seats from waiting areas. • Placing additional hands-free garbage bins with removable linings at all entrances and exits.
<p>Hand Hygiene & Respiratory Etiquette</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practise proper hand hygiene. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wash your hands frequently. ○ Refrain from touching your face with unclean hands. ○ Carry and use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol content immediately before and after using playground equipment. • Ensure there are stations available to maintain hand hygiene. • The use of highly visible posters that remind users to practice respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene is strongly encouraged. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Posters are available here.
<p>Shared Items and Equipment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage children to avoid sharing toys or sports equipment and limit contact with individuals outside of their household or cohort family. • Clean and disinfect toys and sports equipment prior to and after use. • Caution should be taken around playground equipment. • Water fountains may remain open and should be cleaned and disinfected frequently, if possible.
<p>Additional Resources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 Information for Albertans • Alberta Biz Connect • Relaunch guidance documents