

Revised Guidelines reviewed **as of March 11, 2022** for BC Synod Congregations

COVID-19 Restrictions for Faith-Based Organizations
All religious indoor worship services in all regions of BC
Guidance for Holding Worship Services
Update on COVID-19 restrictions

Be Informed	Notes
<p>Updates effective March 11, 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifting the indoor mask order • Lifting capacity limits on faith gatherings <p>There is no longer a requirement to restrict attendance based on vaccination status for faith-based worship services.</p> <p>Masks are optional; however, people may want to continue wearing a mask based on personal choice. Individual businesses and organizations can choose to continue to require mask wearing on their premises.</p> <p>Additionally announced are changes effective April 8, 2022 at 12:01am:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing the BC Vaccine Card proof of vaccination to access non-essential events, services and businesses will no longer be required. • Individual businesses and organizations can choose to continue to require the BC Vaccine proof on their premises. • The remainder of the Workplace Safety Order will be lifted, which means businesses will transition back to communicable disease plans to reduce risk of all communicable disease. <p>Proof of Vaccination Proof of vaccination and the BC Vaccine Card - Province of British Columbia (gov.bc.ca)</p>	<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 10px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Safety plan: WorkSafeBC's COVID-19 Safety Plan WorkSafeBC</p> <p>Communicable disease plan: Communicable disease prevention: A guide for employers WorkSafeBC</p> </div> <p><u>Synod COVID-19 Response Team</u> is available to assist you:</p> <p>Lower Mainland (A-L): Jean Jay jeangunn8@hotmail.com</p> <p>Lower Mainland (M-Z) and Vancouver Island: Karen Lee kelee2018karen@gmail.com</p> <p>Northern BC: Robin Dielissen dielissen.rd@gmail.com</p> <p>Southern Interior: Pr. Brian Krushel flcpastor@shaw.ca</p>

<p><u>Preparations</u> Congregations must ensure they are compliant with the most recent provincial and federal health regulations as posted on government websites and Work Safe BC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The church (as the Employer) must transition to a communicable disease plan on April 8, 2022. 	<p>Communicable disease prevention: A guide for employers WorkSafeBC</p>
<p><u>Seating</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No capacity limits on faith gatherings 	
<p>Communicate before opening</p>	<p>Notes</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Everyone should stay home if they are sick or not feeling well. <input type="checkbox"/> Everyone should clean their hands frequently. <input type="checkbox"/> Everyone eligible should be encouraged to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. <input type="checkbox"/> Give others space. Faith leaders should encourage everyone to spread out <input type="checkbox"/> Keep things clean. Regular cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces can help prevent the spread of illnesses, including COVID-19. 	
<p>Preparing for Worship</p>	<p>Notes</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Communicate the changes to the congregation 	

Worship	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Masks are optional; however, people may want to continue wearing a mask based on personal choice. <input type="checkbox"/> Congregations can choose to continue to require mask wearing on their premises. <p>Effective April 8, 2022 at 12:01am:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Showing the BC Vaccine Card proof of vaccination to access non-essential events, services and businesses will no longer be required. <input type="checkbox"/> Congregations can choose to continue to require the BC Vaccine proof on their premises. 	
<p><u>Singing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Starting March 11, 2022, masks are a personal choice for most indoor public spaces. <input type="checkbox"/> Some events may request that masks be used in their spaces. 	
<p><u>Holy Communion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Masks are optional; however, people may want to continue wearing a mask based on personal choice 	
<p><u>Renters / User Groups</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor and outdoor organized events can take place at full capacity. <input type="checkbox"/> Masks are a personal choice for most indoor public spaces. Some events may request that masks be used in their spaces. <input type="checkbox"/> Starting April 8, 2022, proof of vaccination will no longer be required to access events and services. <input type="checkbox"/> Event organizers can choose to continue requiring proof of vaccination for entry. 	<p><u>Indemnity Clause for Rental contracts:</u> https://elcic.box.com/s/obli5vkv0jjyxzyidojcs1esluqvyyu30</p> <p>Release, Waiver of Liability, and Assumption of Risk Agreement Form relating to COVID-19: https://elcic.box.com/s/oe926id9pbo8aq99lyyttwk4qrg69e3h</p>

Returning to Other In-person Ministries of the Congregation	Notes
<p><u>Visitation</u> as of March 11, 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Eased of restrictions on long-term care visitors. <input type="checkbox"/> By March 18, the number of visitors to long-term care facilities will no longer be restricted as long as visitors are fully vaccinated and screened. <input type="checkbox"/> Some facilities will be able to implement these changes earlier. Visitors should check with their local care home. 	<p>Long-Term Care Facilities & Assisted Living (bccdc.ca)</p>