

## Stage 2 Safe Work Instructions for Site Operations during Pandemic COVID 19 (as of April 5, 2020)

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### Purpose:

To outline the safe work instructions for site operations during pandemic influenza COVID 19 Ministry of Education Stage 2. This document must be read in conjunction with the District's Stage 2 Exposure Control Plan for Pandemic Influenza – COVID 19

### Scope:

This work instruction applies to employees of the Revelstoke School District and at all sites.

### Related Documents on district website.

Exposure Control Plan for Pandemic Influenza – COVID 19  
Safe Work Instructions for Mobile Staff during Pandemic COVID 19  
Music Classes

### Definitions:

- I. COVID-19 means the illness resulting from an infection by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (2019-nCoV)
  - a. COVID-19 signs and symptoms.  
The symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to other respiratory illnesses, including the flu and common cold. They include:
    - Cough
    - Loss of sense of smell or taste
    - Fever
    - Chills
    - Difficulty breathingYou should stay home and request testing if you have one or more of these symptoms.
    - Sore throat
    - Loss of appetite
    - Extreme fatigue or tiredness
    - Headache
    - Body aches
    - Nausea or vomiting
    - Diarrhea Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure.  
You should stay home until you feel better if you have one of these symptoms. If you have two or more of these symptoms, you should stay home, wait for 24 hours and get tested if not better after the 24 hours.
- II. Mass gathering means any collection of over 50 people in a defined area indoors, and outside, where physical distancing cannot be established or maintained.
  - i. This does not apply to staff or students in a school setting provided that school physical distancing measures can be followed. This means that there can be more than 50 students and staff in a school at any given time if they are not all

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in one area at the same time and are actively engaged in physical distancing to the extent possible.

- III. **Physical Distancing** means minimizing close contact with others including:
- a. avoiding crowded places and non-essential gatherings
  - b. avoiding common greetings, such as handshakes, hugs and kisses
  - c. limiting contact with people at higher risk (e.g. older adults and those in poor health)
  - d. keeping a distance of at least 2 arms lengths (approximately 2 metres) from other adults, as much as possible
    - i. it is expected that physical distancing will be more challenging for young children in a school setting so there should be a focus on minimizing the frequency of physical contact in these situations. However, it is currently believed that children are at lower risk for transmission to each other and to adults.
    - ii. Secondary students will self monitor and manage physical distancing compliance during transitions and unstructured time.

- IV. Stage 2 means K-7 cohorts composed to up to 60 people and grade 8-12 cohorts of up to 120 people

### Instructions

1. Supervisor must:
  - a. Involve the joint health and safety committee in assessing the risks for COVID-19 transmission at the worksite
  - b. Post a copy of the COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan at the worksite
  - c. Ensure that all workers are informed of these instructions and the Exposure Control Plan for Pandemic Influenza – COVID-19 as well as other related documents.
  - d. Facilitate physical distancing by
    - i. minimizing congestion at entrances.
    - ii. encouraging the use of alternate doors to enter the building
    - iii. propping external main entrance doors open during transition times – start of the day, recess, end of the day.
      1. Propping open doors does not include internal fire separation doors.
    - iv. Identifying narrow stairwells to consider modifying traffic patterns.
    - v. Appropriately planning and scheduling work and breaks as necessary.
    - vi. Assessing the proximity of workers in workspaces and change seating arrangements by moving workers or installing a physical barrier if that is the only alternative.
    - vii. Ensure mask are used by all staff and students as detailed in **Section 4, Personal Protective Equipment, contained in this Protocol**. This use applies but is not restricted to, all indoor areas in schools excluding workstations, in a classroom/learning environment, if there is a barrier in place, eating or drinking or if outdoors.
  - e. Inform occupants to stay to the right when transitioning between classes or workspaces.

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- f. Implement a system to manage the access of the building by employees and others.  
Consider:
    - i. Ensuring contractors schedule onsite work in advance
    - ii. Promoting virtual communications using online booking times systems
    - iii. Planning in person visits by appointment only
    - iv. Implementing physical distancing floor markings or other equivalent means where it is expected that more than one person will be waiting for service. For example, spacing of chairs, placing cones, or signs.
    - v. Ensuring the daily health check is completed by all staff and visitors prior to entering the site
      - 1. Ensure all staff that are present onsite have signed the registry.
      - 2. Ensure all visitors – including contractors, and district personnel – use the contact registry giving their name, phone number, date, in-time, out-time, areas/people visiting and that a daily health check has been performed and recorded in the contact registry.
      - 3. This contact registry is located in each site office area and the information is to be recorded and reviewed by the administration.
    - vi. Parents and guardians should go no further than directly to the office.
      - 1. In most cases only one person should be in the office at a time.
    - vii. Kindergarten – drop off and pick up must be coordinated to reduce a parent’s need to enter the school.
      - 1. receive students on the field or in the play area,
      - 2. use the external door to the class,
      - 3. take kids outside to a defined pick up area / drop off area,
    - viii. The needs of parents of learners with unique requirements can be addressed on a case-by-case basis.
  - g. Ensure that mass gatherings are not carried out. i.e. standard grade 7 Farewell
    - i. Adapt alternate means of holding the event
  - h. Ensure that custodial staff are carrying out required cleaning and disinfecting services.
  - i. Ensure that all parents and guardians are aware of the requirement to complete a daily COVID-19 screening of their children prior to dropping them off at school.
  - j. Ensure all parents and guardians are aware that they must remain outside of the school during drop off and pick up unless agreed to in advance.
  - k. Parents/caregivers or visitors who are approved to enter the school must complete the health check sign in sheet, wear a non-medical mask while inside the school, and maintain physical distancing.
2. Workers must:
- a. review all COVID-19 related district published information in a timely manner, including the “Exposure Control Plan for Pandemic Influenza-COVID19” prior to initiating onsite work

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- b. continuously be self-monitoring for illness symptoms
  - c. stay home when ill (if a symptom is part of your baseline health ie: a headache that regularly occurs with no other symptoms or regular allergies, you are allowed to attend school/work)
  - d. sign in and out of the contact registry when attending district workplaces
  - e. practice physical distancing as defined including considering cohort designation
  - f. plan accordingly to limit your need to leave the workplace for lunch or appointments to go to public places during working hours
  - g. Wear masks or any other required PPE as identified by signage or safe work procedures
  - h. Report safety hazards to your supervisor
  - i. not:
    - i. plan, encourage or participate in mass gatherings greater than 50 people
    - ii. bring cleaning chemicals from home
3. Hygiene
- a. A thorough washing of the hands with soap and water is the best protection against illness. Follow this instruction for handwashing:
    - i. Check that the paper towels are accessible from the dispenser,
      - 1. If not adjust dispenser until paper towels are accessible.
    - ii. Wet hands with running water.
    - iii. Apply a small amount of liquid soap. Antibacterial soap is not required.
    - iv. Rub hands together for at least 20 seconds (sing the ABC's). Rub palms, backs of hands, between fingers and under nails/creating a lather.
    - v. Rinse off all soap with running water.
    - vi. Dry hands with a clean, disposable towel.
    - vii. Turn off taps, using the paper towel – if required
    - viii. If door is not propped open, use paper towel to open door.
    - ix. Discard the used towel in the waste container.
  - b. Workers must wash their hands often to maintain appropriate hand hygiene and minimize illness transmission
4. Personal Protective Equipment
- Use of Non-medical masks
- K-12 Staff**
- All K-12 staff are required to wear a mask or a face shield (in which case a mask should be worn in addition to the face shield) indoors in schools and on school buses - both within and outside of their learning group.
- Supporting students with complex behaviours, medical complexities or receiving delegated care may require staff providing health services or other health care providers to be in close physical proximity or in physical contact with a medically complex or immune suppressed student.

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Bus drivers are required to wear a non-medical mask, a face covering or a face shield (in which case a non-medical mask should be worn in addition to the face shield) on school buses except while driving

- People providing these services in schools must wear a mask (medical or non-medical) when providing services and the service cannot be provided from behind a physical barrier. Additional PPE over and above that needed for routine practices and the use of a medical or non-medical mask is not necessary.
- Those providing health services in schools may be receiving different guidance related to PPE from their regulatory college or employer. Health service providers are encouraged to work with their employer to confirm what PPE is recommended for the services they provide in school settings.
- Parents and caregivers of children who are considered at higher risk of severe illness due to COVID-19

### K-12 Students

All students in Grades 4 to 12 are required to wear a mask or a face shield (in which case a non-medical mask should be worn in addition to the face shield) indoors in schools and on school buses - both within and outside of their learning group.

Students in Grades K to 3 are encouraged to wear a mask indoors in schools and on school buses, but are not required to do so - mask wearing remains a personal or family/caregiver choice for these students, and their choices must be respected.

- Respiratory protection such as medical masks and face shields will be provided for specific job types where maintaining physical distance is not possible.
- Where PPE has been identified for tasks prior to COVID-19 pandemic, this PPE will continue to be used when performing these tasks.

### Exceptions for staff, students and visitors

The guidance outlined above regarding mask requirements does not apply to staff, students and visitors in the following circumstances:

- to a person who cannot tolerate wearing a mask for health or behavioural reasons;
- to a person who is unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person;
- if the mask is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the person wearing it;

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- if the mask is removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask (e.g. playing a wind instrument, engaging in high-intensity physical activity, etc.);
- if a person is eating or drinking;
- if a person is behind a barrier; or
- while providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability (including but not limited to a hearing impairment) where visual cues, facial expressions and/or lip reading/movements is important.

Schools must not require a health-care provider notes (ie: doctor's note) to confirm if staff, students or visitors cannot wear a mask.

No student should be prevented from attending or fully participating at school if they do not wear a mask.



# Coronavirus COVID-19

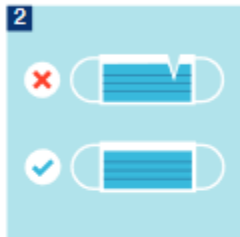
BC Centre for Disease Control | BC Ministry of Health



## How to Wear a Face Mask



1 Wash your hands with soap and water for 20-30 seconds or perform hand hygiene with alcohol-based hand rub before touching the face mask.



2 Check the new mask to make sure it's not damaged.



3 Ensure colour side of the mask faces outwards.



4 Locate the metallic strip. Place it over and mold it to the nose bridge.



5 Place an ear loop around each ear or tie the top and bottom straps.



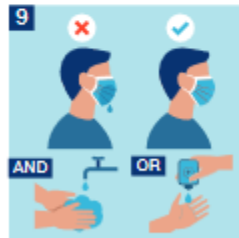
6 Cover mouth and nose fully, making sure there are no gaps. Pull the bottom of the mask to fully open and fit under your chin.



7 Press the metallic strip again to fit the shape of the nose. Perform hand hygiene.



8 Do not touch the mask while using it, if you do, perform hand hygiene.



9 Replace the mask if it gets wet or dirty and wash your hands again after putting it on. Do not reuse the mask.

### Removing the Mask






1 Perform hand hygiene.

2 Do not touch the front of your mask. Lean forward, gently remove the mask from behind by holding both ear loops or ties.

3 Discard the mask in a waste container.

4 Perform hand hygiene.

- a. Gloves
  - i. Gloves are not recommended for workers

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1. Except:
  - a. those carrying out first aid treatment
  - b. custodians who are cleaning
  - c. where required prior to the pandemic
2. Follow the doffing gloves instructions and wash your hands after removing gloves





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5. Emergency Evacuations
  - a. In the event of a fire alarm or evacuation while on site, physical distancing is secondary to the immediate life safety of occupants.
    - i. Evacuate using your nearest safe exit
    - ii. Proceed to the gathering area and confirm your head count with your supervisor.
    - iii. Maintain your physical distancing while remaining in an orderly fashion.
  - b. Lockdown
    - i. Follow standard lockdown procedures as physical distancing is secondary to the immediate risk of the lockdown.
6. Cough/sneeze etiquette:
  - a. Cough and sneeze into the crease of the elbow or tissue.
  - b. Throw tissues into a lined receptacle immediately after use,
7. Supporting or giving first aid response to
  - a. asymptomatic individuals
    - i. In addition to following universal precautions.
      1. maintain physical distancing whenever possible
      2. allow for, and encourage, self care and treatment
  - b. symptomatic students
    - i. lead student to the designated space
    - ii. maintain appropriate physical distancing
    - iii. notify admin to contact guardian for pick up at designated area
    - iv. avoid touching student's bodily fluids
    - v. have student cover their mouth and nose with a tissue
    - vi. provide necessary treatment
    - vii. discard any used tissues
    - viii. wash hands
    - ix. request an intensive room clean
  - c. symptomatic workers
    - i. Worker
      1. Notify your supervisor of your symptoms.
      2. Go home and self-monitor.
        - a. If symptoms persist self-isolate for 10 days and call 8-1-1
      3. Update your supervisor of your condition
    - ii. Supervisor
      1. Request an intensive cleaning of the spaces where the worker was deployed.
      2. Take action as requested by Interior Health with respect to contact tracing or outbreaks management.
      3. Keep the Superintendent or Secretary Treasurer informed of any required actions.

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8. Practicing physical distancing in a school
  - a. Workers entering the school or building must do so while maintaining physical distancing requirements.
    - i. Do not enter or leave the building in groups.
  - b. Avoid hallway discussions, move to a classroom, to allow movement to happen freely in the halls.
  - c. Stay to the right when walking in the corridors.
  - d. Time your use of the corridors if possible, to when they are not as busy
  - e. When possible, prop open doors that are frequently used.
    - i. Except fire doors unless equipped with electric door holders.
  - f. Use Microsoft Teams or Zoom, telephone, or email for most communication, minimize the need for face to face meetings even while wearing a mask.
9. Counselling
  - i. Use empty classrooms or meeting rooms for sessions
  - ii. Use Counselling offices if large enough
  - iii. Maintain physical distancing
10. Employees that must complete prolonged assessments in close proximity to students or adults (<2m).

In addition to adhering to the existing policies, procedures and work instructions, School Psychologist, and Speech and Language Pathologist and other positions that cannot maintain physical distance should:

- a. When working with adults
  - i. Where possible carry out meetings with adults virtually.
  - ii. Where virtual meetings are not possible:
    1. Ensure that the selected area has sufficient space to accommodate physical distancing between adults at all times.
- b. When working with students
  - i. Have the student wash their hands prior to the session and at the session completion.
  - ii. Outside the cohort select a space where physical distancing is feasible. This may not always be the same room.
  - iii. Inside the cohort minimize physical contact
  - iv. Understand that strict adherence to physical distancing may not always be possible as a support services employee outside the cohort
    1. **Regardless of whether or not physical distancing can be maintained for a longer period of time during a session**, utilize one of the following:
      - a. Desk mounted droplet plexiglass shield,
      - b. Non-medical mask, or
      - c. Face shield and a non-medical mask

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- d. A face shield can be used in place of a non-medical mask when working with students where seeing facial expressions and /or lip movement is important and physical distance cannot be maintained
        - v. If an employee must be in contact with bodily fluids (greater than droplets) on their hands, gloves shall be worn.
        - vi. If an employee may be in contact with droplets to the eyes a face shield (along with a non-medical mask) must be worn
        - vii. All disposable personal protective equipment must be placed in a lined waste bin at the end of a session.
        - viii. All reusable personal protective equipment must be wiped clean at the end of the session.
      - c. Equipment
        - i. Desks and work surfaces can be wiped clean after a session.
        - ii. All materials or equipment used should be wiped clean after sessions.
          - 1. Materials that cannot be wiped clean should not be used.
          - 2. Paper or books do not need to be wiped down
      - d. Practice frequent hand hygiene.
        - i. Handwashing with soap and water is proffered
          - 1. Before meeting with a student or parent / guardian
          - 2. After meeting with a student or parent / guardian
        - ii. If hand require sanitation during a session hand sanitizer can be used as a temporary measure prior to hand washing.
11. Shared spaces
  - a. Arrival at school
    - i. If a large number of students are expected at the school, the arrival at school should be managed to minimize congestion. Use other entrances in addition to the main entrance, the use of classroom external doors is also an option.
    - ii. Walking and riding to school should be promoted.
    - iii. Parents should not be entering the school during drop off.
  - b. Busses
    - I. Drivers must wear PPE (gloves) to clean and disinfect the high touch areas of the bus after drop offs. Recommendations regarding potential additional protection for the driver will be reviewed.
    - II. Dispose of gloves appropriately in a lined waste receptacle.
    - III. The district will create consistent and assigned seating arrangements for students.
    - IV. Buses should be loaded using a process that maximizes student safety.
    - V. If space is available, students should each have their own seat (unless sharing with a member of their household) and sit separated side to side and front to back.

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- VI. Students in Grades 4 to 12 are required to wear non-medical masks or face coverings when they are on the bus.
- VII. Students in Grades K to 3 are encouraged to wear a non-medical mask or face covering on 19 school buses but are not required to do so - mask wearing remains a personal or family/caregiver choice for these students, and their choices must be respected.
- VIII. Non-medical masks or face coverings should be put on before loading.
  - IX. no student is required to wear a mask if they do not tolerate it.
  - X. Students should clean their hands before they leave home to take the bus, when they leave school prior to taking the bus and when they get home.
  - XI. Bus drivers will clean their hands often, including before and after trips.
  - XII. All K-12 staff are required to wear a mask on school buses except while driving or able to maintain physical distance (2M), face shields can be worn with the masks.
  - XIII. Be scheduled taking into consideration physical distancing.
  - XIV. Open windows when the weather permits.
  - XV. Bus drivers will clean and disinfect the high touch areas of the bus after school drop offs and at the end of the day. Buses used for transporting students should be cleaned and disinfected according the guidance provided in the BC CDC's [Cleaning and Disinfectants for Public Settings](#) document.

### c. Classrooms

- i. The maximum capacity of a classroom shall ensure that physical distancing can be maintained whenever possible when students occupy their assigned seating.
- ii. Doors should be left ajar as much as reasonably practicable so that they do not require use of hands to open.
- iii. Seating arrangements should ensure physical distancing whenever possible
- iv. Late arrivals should continue to sign in at the office or follow such other procedure that had been established by the principal,
  - 1. for elementary schools this could happen at the exterior classroom door if one exists
- v. Early departures require the parent or guardian go no further than the office, respecting physical distancing, and no further and must be done with advance notice or follow such other process as may be set up by the principal.
  - 1. For elementary schools this could happen at the exterior classroom door if one exists with advance notice
- vi. Classrooms must be decluttered to facilitate intensive cleaning. Couches and other items that cannot be appropriately disinfected and are communal in nature of use must be blocked off, covered or discarded.
- vii. Waste receptacles should be in each classroom and lined with a plastic bag.
- viii. All desk surfaces must be kept clean at the end of the day to facilitate cleaning.
  - 1. There should be no items stuck to the desk tops
- ix. The use of communal tools and instruments should be minimized
  - 1. Items used should cleaned or wiped down as necessary post use.
- x. Avoid demonstrations that required the class to gather closely around to view.

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1. Use video or projection as alternatives.
- xi. Students should be reminded to
  1. Not come to school when sick
  2. Wash their hands frequently
    - a. When they arrive, and before they go, before eating and drinking, after using the toilet, after sneezing or coughing, when visibly dirty, transitions to different areas,
    - b. This will require scheduling to avoid significant line-ups and congestion.
  3. Place all parent provided food items in a designated clean area.
  4. Not to share food or utensils
  5. “pack out” their waste
- xii. Access to cleaning supplies is currently limited for custodians.
  1. Chemicals from outside the workplace are not permitted
  2. Spray disinfectant bottles will be provided to each classroom
- xiii. Science labs, tech shop, foods, and textile classes should be reviewed safety with input from the JHSC.
- d. Computers and shared Technology
  - i. Computer labs and carts that are used by multiple students and staff are required to be cleaned twice in 24 hours. The use must respect physical distancing
  - ii. Shared tablets should not be used at this time.
  - iii. The use of personal devices is permitted.
- e. Front/main office
  - i. Limit your need to go into the office
  - ii. No more than one to two people should be served in the office, all the while maintaining physical distancing
- f. Grounds, play structures and games/sports
  - i. The use of sports fields and open areas are permitted.
  - ii. The use of play structures is currently prohibited but is under review.
  - iii. Sports equipment use should be restricted to that which is easy to clean. See Physical Education.
- g. Libraries

At this time, there is no evidence that the COVID-19 virus is transmitting via textbooks, paper or other paper-based products. As such there is no need to limit the distribution or sharing/ return of books or paper-based educational resources to students because of COVID-19

- i. Students and staff should practice diligent hand hygiene before and after sharing equipment/ resources and whenever hands are visibly dirty
- ii. Laminated or glossy paper-based products and items with plastic covers are low risk items. Regular book browsing and circulation processes can occur as normal with no further requirements for quarantine or disinfection
- iii. Students and staff should remain in their learning groups as much as possible and maintain physical distance with other learning groups.

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- h. Music/Band and Strings/Choir
  - i. K-12 staff and students in Grades 4 to 12 must wear masks when indoors. Masks can be temporarily removed while engaging in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask (e.g. playing a wind instrument), but must be worn while singing.
  - ii. Physical contact is minimized for those within same learning group and students are spaced as far apart as possible
  - iii. Physical distance (2m) can be maintained for K-12 staff and for middle and secondary school students when interacting outside of their learning groups;
  - iv. Physical distance (2m) can be maintained for elementary students when interacting outside of their learning groups when indoors; and
  - v. Physical distancing requirements must be met for non learning groups inside
  - vi. No instruments with the exception of large string instruments, percussion and piano should be shared during this time. These are considered frequently touched surfaces and cleaned accordingly.
  - vii. Activities that increase the probability of droplet transmission should be reviewed to ensure that the most protective measures are taken with regards to physical distancing use large spaces including outdoors.
  - viii. When singing students within the same learning group should be spaced as far apart as possible. In secondary schools masks should be worn when singing
  - ix. Music education should occur in line with guidance developed by the British Columbia Music Educator's Association and the Coalition for Music Education in British Columbia
  
- i. Physical and Health Education (PHE)/Outdoor Activities
  - i. Create space between students and staff, and encourage outdoor activities and programs, as much as possible.
  - ii. K-12 teachers should plan physical activities that:
    - Do not involve prolonged physical contact (i.e. physical contact beyond a brief moment) or crowding. For example, activities such as tag and touch football are low-risk, whereas activities like wrestling or partner dancing should be avoided. Teachers are encouraged to adapt activities wherever possible to reduce physical contact, including within learning groups.
    - Support physical distancing (2m) outside of learning groups.
  - iii. K-12 staff are required to wear masks during PHE/outdoor program classes when they are indoors and a barrier is not present.
  - iv. Shared equipment can be used provided it is cleaned and disinfected as per the guidelines in the Cleaning and Disinfecting protocols.
  - v. Outdoor group activities including classes and sports should be organized in a way that, takes into consideration:
    - 1. Learning group only
    - 2. Minimizing use of equipment that requires use of hands
    - 3. Ability of the group to comply with instructions around the above

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- j. Photocopier rooms
  - i. Minimize the use or need for printed materials,
  - ii. Only one person at a copier at a time.
    - 1. plan or schedule large photocopier jobs –e.g. use an online calendar, or sign up log
    - 2. Schedule use of copier during non instructional time if required
- k. Staffrooms/meeting rooms
  - i. The maximum capacity of a meeting room or staffroom shall ensure that physical distancing can be maintained.
    - 1. If necessary, post maximum occupancy on the entrance door
  - ii. Wash your hands before and after you use items in the staffroom and after leaving the staffroom
  - iii. Maintain physical distancing while in a staffroom.
  - iv. Refrain from eating in the staffroom; use it for food storage, accessing appliances, etc.
  - v. Clean the areas, surfaces, appliances, etc. that you use in the staffroom.
  - vi. Wash your hands before you eat
  - vii. Do not share food, drink, or containers.
  - viii. Remove any unnecessary tools or equipment that may elevate the risk of transmission, including items like coffee makers and shared utensils and plates.
- l. Water fountains and bottle filling stations
  - i. Water fountain use must be restricted at all sites and used only if no other means of water access is available.
  - ii. Bottle filling stations can remain open.
- m. Staff Only Spaces
  - i. In “staff only” spaces, staff are required to wear masks when **indoors, in addition to** maintaining physical distance (2M), and a barrier is not present. WorkSafeBC guidance for offices also lists measures that should be considered and implemented as applicable to the workplace for staff in office environment.