

Provincial Health Orders for Fraser Health and Vancouver Coastal Health

Q & A

Business - General:

I have a flight booked out of Vancouver. Can I still go?

- Yes. Staying within the region is a recommendation, not an order.
- B.C. has never had restrictions on people leaving the province.
- However, we are seeing resurgences in almost every province across the country so British Columbians should only travel if absolutely necessary.

Can people who live in the Fraser Health region but work in the Vancouver Coastal Health Region still come to work?

- There is no order restricting travel; however, this virus is spreading through communities in these regions and we must do all we can to limit our interactions with people outside our households so we can keep our schools and businesses open.
- British Columbians should postpone recreational and social travel in and out of these regions for the next two weeks, but those who must travel into or out of the regions or between regions for work or other essential purposes can continue to do so.

Can daily business and worksite screenings be done using an app?

- Screening should already be included in every business's existing COVID-19 safety plan; this could be done by someone asking workers as they arrive at the workplace, through an app, an online form, or through signage and messaging at the entrance to the workplace.
- This order is a reminder for employers and employees to take the screening seriously and answer honestly, but it does not require in-person assessment of every employee as they arrive at work.
- All employees should be reminded that now is not the time to get complacent and come to work with symptoms that could be COVID-19.

Why are restaurants, movie theatres and churches allowed to have up to 50 people, but wedding ceremonies and funeral services cannot happen?

- Wedding ceremonies and funeral services may proceed with a limited number of people and COVID-19 safety plans in place but there are to be no receptions inside or outside your home, or at any public or community-based venue.
- These orders are based on evidence that social gatherings like wedding and funeral receptions are causing significant COVID-19 transmission. People who violate this order bring exposure risks into their home – risks that they later take with them to their homes and workplaces. We all need to reduce our social interactions so we can keep our schools and workplaces open.
- Restaurants, movie theatres, churches all have COVID-19 safety plans that include measures like physical distancing, small numbers of people per table or seats, cleaning protocols and mask wearing etc. We don't have these same measures in our homes and that means transmission can happen more easily.

Can cities still hold in person City Council meetings?

- Yes. The order restricts social gatherings. This is nothing like a social gathering.

Will masks be mandated?

- The Provincial Health Officer expects everyone who can to use masks, the same way she expects everyone to maintain a safe distance from others, clean their hands, and cough into their sleeves. We must use all these layers of protection to stop the virus from spreading.

What changes are required for workplace screening?

- A screening should already be included in every business's existing COVID-19 safety plans.
- Employers must ensure this screening continues. Examples include someone asking workers as they arrive at the workplace, through an app or online form or through signage and messaging at the entrance to the workplace
- An in-person assessment of every employee as they arrive at work is not required.
- Now is not the time to get complacent and come to work with symptoms that could be COVID-19.

Can people who live in the Vancouver Coastal Health region but work in the Fraser Health region still come to work?

- Yes. There is no order restricting travel – however, this virus is spreading through communities in these regions and we must do all we can to limit our interactions with people outside our households so we can keep our schools and businesses open.
- British Columbians should postpone recreational and social travel in and out of these regions for the next two weeks.

Is it okay to travel within the region for work (Abbotsford to Burnaby)?

- Yes. There is no order restricting travel – however, this virus is spreading through communities in these regions and we must do all we can to limit our interactions with people outside our households so we can keep our schools and businesses open.
- British Columbians should postpone recreational and social travel in and out of these regions for the next two weeks.

Does this apply to businesses that operate inside a home (hair salons, nail salons, etc.)?

- No. The order restricts social gatherings. This is nothing like a social gathering.

Are home viewings still allowed (rental and home sales)?

- The order has no impact on home viewings. People hosting viewings should use the layers of protection we always talk about. Use masks, maintain a safe distance from others, clean your hands, and cough into your sleeves – stay home if you are sick. We must use all these layers of protection to stop the virus from spreading.

Can work meetings continue to take place of more than six people in an office setting?

- Yes. This order is for social gatherings. Business meetings can continue with COVID safety plans in place.

Can business training sessions continue in the work place or do they have to be moved to virtual?

- Yes. This order is for social gatherings. Business training can continue with COVID safety plans in place. However, right now businesses should consider holding virtual meetings for the next two weeks wherever possible.