

Indoor Programming FAQ

General Information

Please stay home if you, your child, or anyone else in your household becomes sick. If you need to assess your symptoms, please call 8-1-1 or use the BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment tool:

<https://www.thrive.health/bc-self-assessment-tool>.

The Worksafe BC safety plans for Courtenay Recreation programs will be posted on our website prior to the planned start of programming on September 21st.

The health and safety of our residents and staff is the top priority. We are offering a limited selection of low risk programs. Programs will operate with reduced capacity and activities may be increased or decreased based on demand and public safety.

All facilities and activities will meet strict health and safety guidelines as set out by the Provincial Health Officer (PHO), Worksafe BC, Island Health and other appropriate industry associations. Many additional safety measures have also been implemented throughout our facilities & programs to ensure user safety. As we reopen, we will evaluate our procedures and programs and modify them as necessary.

We have assessed all activity spaces and determined how many users can safely participate in our programs at any given time, based on physical distancing requirement as set out by the PHO. We will increase the frequency and cleaning of all high touch surfaces.

For Everyone's Safety:

- Pre-registration will be required for all activities (including drop-in).
- Patrons who are sick will not be allowed entry.
- Activities will operate with reduced capacity.
- All activities must be pre-registered using contactless payment – online or over the phone.
- Upon entering, participants must acknowledge the health declaration and sanitize your hands.
- Patrons must maintain a physical distancing of 2 metres apart at all times.
- Follow signage posted throughout the facility.
- Wash hands frequently.
- Bring your own water bottle and water.
- Bathrooms are open for program participant use only.
- Please arrived dressed for your activity. Change rooms are closed.
- Bring only what you need. Leave valuables at home.
- Activities may be offered in different locations to accommodate physical distancing requirements.

Facility Access

Our facilities will not be open to the general public. Participants will be asked to wait in their vehicles, when possible, until 5 minutes before their program start time to reduce congestion around the entrances and exits of the facility.

Program participants will be let into the facility by their instructor. Upon entry to any of the facilities you will be asked to acknowledge the health declaration stating you are not experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, haven't left the country in the last 14 days, and have not been asked to isolate by public health. Next all participants must sanitize their hands and immediately go to their designated program space. When participants are in the facility they will have restricted access to other parts of the facility based on their program location. The offices will not be open to the public at this time.

To gain access to the facility, please go to the designated entry below:

Lewis Centre

- Programs in the MP Hall, Gym and Craft Room B – to use front entrance located on highway
- Programs in Craft Room A – to use sliding door outside of room off of parking lot
- Programs in Cozy Corner – to use sliding door outside of room off of parking lot
- Programs in the Wellness and Activity Room – to use upper level entrance off of parking lot
- Programs in Salish or Tsolum – please use main entrance

Filberg Centre

- Programs in the Rotary Hall, Craft Room and Evergreen Lounge – to use lower front entrance
- Programs in the Conference Hall – to use upper entrance

Native Sons Hall

- Programs in the Upper Native Sons – to use entrance off of upper parking lot
- Programs in the Lodge Room or Dining Room – to use entrance of lower parking lot

LINC Youth Centre

- Programs in the games room, meeting room or skate park – please use the main entrance off the parking lot

Change rooms and viewing areas will not be available at this time.

Physical Distancing

All program spaces have had their capacity reduced to ensure that there is enough room for participants to maintain the appropriate amount of physical distance from other individuals based on the type of program they are participating in. Unnecessary furniture, material and equipment has been removed from hallways in high traffic areas. We have planned for additional time between programs to ensure that participants can safely enter and exit the facility in a distanced manner and that all equipment and supplies can be thoroughly sanitized before the next program.

Children's Programs

We will do our best to keep participants from different households 2 metres apart but this can be challenging with young children. The recommendations from childcare settings isn't to enforce physical distancing with children but to encourage it and have a "hands to yourself" practice. The recommended guidelines can be found here: http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID_public_guidance/Guidance_Child_Care.pdf.

At this time parents and spectators will not be allowed into programs due to the limited capacity we can accommodate in each program space. We ask that parents please drop-off and pick-up at the designated location. Participants will not be allowed to exit the facility until their parent/guardian has arrived. Please arrive no earlier than 5 minutes before the start or end of a program for drop-off and pick-up.

Adult & Fitness Programs

Adults will also be asked to physically distance. Depending on the program and location there could be designated spaces for each individual. We ask all participants to do their part and be aware of their surroundings to ensure they are physically distanced from those around them.

Program Information

All participants must pre-register for their programs, this includes pre-registration for drop-in programming. Attendance will be taken at every class.

Participants are encouraged to 'come prepared' to participate; change rooms are not currently available. Participants should bring their own gear for personal use to reduce sharing of equipment. We have extended time between all classes to ensure that any equipment provided by the facility is properly sanitized. In the event of rainy weather, please bring a bag to store any wet or muddy shoes, boots or jackets in during your program or leave them in your vehicle. There is not storage space available for personal items.

Participants will be asked to help keep our facilities safe by ensuring the area they used for their program is tidy and that they have used the wipes provided to sanitize any equipment they used during their program before they leave the area.

Based on the guidelines from the British Columbia Parks & Recreation Association (BCRPA) and Island Health, and taking into account physical distancing and safety of our users, Courtenay will base its' maximums on that recommendation. Subsequent phases may allow for an increase in program participants. BCRPA guidelines for distancing include 1 metre radius for static activities and a 2 metre radius for active activities.

Disclaimer

Although Courtenay Recreation has implemented a COVID-19 Safety Plan and related health and safety measures, COVID-19 is a highly infectious disease, and there is an inherent risk of exposure in any place where people are gathered in groups of any size, and this risk cannot be eliminated. Notwithstanding Courtenay Recreation's COVID-19 Safety Plan and related health and safety measures, by participating in any Courtenay Recreation program, participants accept the risk that they may be exposed to, and contract COVID-19.