



## City of Stratford COVID-19 Response Strategy

**Date of Issue:** August 28, 2020

**Date of Amendments:**

### Return-to-Activity Plan

The City of Stratford has developed COVID-19 Return-to-Activity protocols (C19-001), in-line with the current regulations and guidelines from the Ontario Public Health Authorities.

This plan may change, and amendment dates will be identified.

For information and updates on the City's plan, please visit <https://www.stratford.ca/en/play-here/covid-19-return-to-activity.aspx>

1. **Participant Limits** - No more than up to 50 individuals will be allowed within a separated fitness facility or gymnasium at any given time.

Indoor gathering limits may vary from the 50-participant maximum and are subject to individuals being able to physically distance.

The maximum number of individuals allowed within a facility, and the setup plans are ultimately set by public health authorities and must be pre-approved by the City.

2. **Scheduling and Activity Reservation** – To avoid exceeding indoor gathering limits, attending an activity will be by reservation only. It is preferred that reservations be made online, but reservations will be accepted over the phone or at the front counter of the specific facility.

Payment for an activity (if applicable) is preferred contactless via credit or debit card.

3. **No Drop-In/Spectating** - As participation in activities will be by reservation only, individuals from other organizations or memberships will not be permitted to drop-in or spectate an activity they have not reserved.
4. **Distancing** – When indoors, individuals are required to maintain physical distancing of at least two metres (6 feet) with people from outside their households or social circles, except if playing a team sport or as needed for personal training. Some exceptions will apply, and these exceptions will be communicated by the City.
5. **Face Coverings** – When indoors, face coverings are required to be worn, except when engaged in play or receiving fitness instruction. Physical distancing must be maintained.

Program and activity coordinators not participating in activities will be required to wear face coverings while indoors.

Some exceptions will apply, and these exceptions will be communicated by the City.

6. **Health Screening** – Before entering a facility (other than for use of the public washrooms), all guests must answer Yes or No to the following **Screening Questions**:
  - a) Do you have any of the following symptoms: fever/feverish, new or existing cough and difficulty breathing?
  - b) Have you traveled internationally within the last 14 days (outside Canada)?
  - c) Have you had close contact with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case?
  - d) Have you had close contact with a person with acute respiratory illness who has been outside Canada in the last 14 days?

If individuals answer **YES** to any of the questions, screening will have failed, and they cannot enter the building.

A record of the responses to the health screening will be maintained and filed.

7. **Contact Tracing** - All individuals attending the facility must sign-in for contact tracing purposes. The City may approve an organization to perform contact tracing responsibilities and record-keeping provided they have the resources and administrative capacity to do so. Records must be maintained and filed for potential future access.
8. **Entries/Exits** – Individuals attending an activity must enter the activity space exactly at the time of reservation (not before), and leave at the end of the reservation time.

Social gathering before and after activities is not permitted within the facility.

The entrance and exit of individuals will be controlled and monitored. Where possible, individuals will enter activity spaces through one door and exit through a different door.

9. **Onset of Illness** - Any individual who becomes unwell during an activity will be isolated in a designated area until they leave or can be picked up from the facility. The designated area will be cleaned appropriately.

A individual's return to activity will not be allowed until they are well, or until they have had testing indicating that they do not have COVID-19, or until they have been well for 14 days - whichever is appropriate. Individuals testing positive for COVID-19 will not be allowed to return to activity until permission is given by local public health authorities.

10. **Participant COVID-19 Positive** - In the event that an activity participant tests positive for COVID-19, all individuals that have come in contact with this COVID-19 positive participant will be notified and prohibited from further activity within the facility until further direction is provided by public health.

11. **Socializing/Congregating** – Lounge areas, lobbies, meeting rooms and change rooms will not be made available for socializing or congregating.
12. **Washrooms/Changerooms** – There may be restrictions on use of the washrooms and change rooms.

In some cases, individuals will not be permitted to use the change rooms for any purpose other than changing, storing of personal items, and/or using the washrooms if needed. Showers will more than likely not be in operation.

Any additional information on use of washrooms or change rooms will be provided directly to activity individuals or organizations.

13. **Personal Items/Hand Sanitization** – Individuals will be asked to use hand sanitizer before and after an activity, at any water break, and as needed. Individuals are encouraged to have their own water bottle.
14. **Unnecessary Contact** - Prolonged and deliberate physical contact will be **prohibited during** activity play however, individuals can breach physical distancing while on the court in a game setting.

Activity should be designed to minimize the risk of direct contact, and unnecessary physical contact must be eliminated (i.e.: no high 5's, no huddles).

Individuals will be required to maintain physical distancing at all times when off the court, and when possible during on court activities.

15. **Equipment** - Equipment set up will be limited to persons trained to do so and these persons will engage in hand washing before and after set-up.
16. **Activity Waiver** – In most cases, individuals will need to read and acknowledge a waiver related to COVID-19 (see attachment). The waiver will be introduced at the time of activity reservation and/or before participation in an activity.
17. **Protocol Changes** – Individuals will be notified of any changes in return to activity protocols. Communication will be done through a mix of social media platforms, email, press releases and paper notification.

#### Additional Resources

1. **A Framework for Re-opening our Province – Stage 3**  
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/framework-reopening-our-province-stage-3>
2. **Return to Play** - Resources for a safe return to play, including sports and recreation, during COVID-19 (coronavirus)  
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/return-to-play>