



COVID 19 Endemic Safety Plan

Overview

This plan entails measures and guidelines for preventing and mitigating the spread of the Covid 19 virus among the London Men of Accord (MoA) chorus members and audience members. The measures and guidelines are summarized below, as paraphrased by Choirs Ontario (Chorus Ontario (CO), Aug 04, 2021):

A Covid-19 Safety Plan:

- The Safety Plan outlines how your organization will implement measures and procedures to minimize the spread of Covid-19.
- The document includes information on how the MoA chorus will handle:
 - Screening
 - Physical Distancing
 - Masks and Face Coverings
 - Cleaning and Disinfecting surfaces and objects
 - Preventing and controlling crowding

In general, chorus rehearsals may proceed if:

- A distance of two metres is kept between all participants.
- Masks are worn by all participants at all times
- As a guideline participants may remove their masks while performing (Government of Ontario, Ministry of Health (GOMoH). Sep 02, 2021), when other risk migration safety measures are in place.
- Number of participants:
 - When rehearsing or performing at an indoor or outdoor venue, the maximum number of participants must be in accordance the current maximum occupancy limitations as prescribed by the Government of Ontario (Government of Ontario. 05 Jan, 2022)
- The chorus has executed the measures of a Covid-19 Safety Plan.

In general, choral concerts may proceed if:

- They are located at a concert venue (i.e. a church, theatre, hall, etc.) or outdoor area
- A distance of two metres is kept by all performers and audience members
- All people (performers and audience) must wear a mask.
- As a guideline, performers may remove their mask while performing. (GOMoH of Ontario, Ministry of Health. Sep 02, 2021).
- Audience cannot exceed fifty per cent seating capacity if indoor, seventy-five per cent capacity if outdoor, or as otherwise indicated by the current public health guidelines.
- All audience members must pre-register to attend the concert.
- Capacity limits of space must be displayed via signage
 - This includes all spaces where people will be, including concert hall, restrooms, waiting areas, etc.
- The chorus and venue have each made a Covid-19 Safety Plan.



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Safety Plan for Rehearsals:

Mitigating the spread of Covid 19:

- A 2 metre / 6 foot physical distance must be maintained between participants/attendees at all times.
- Participants will be reminded about physical distancing, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.
- The maximum number of participants shall be in accordance with the current gathering limits of the Covid 19 public health measures set by the Ontario Government.
- A mask is required except for a performer or officiant who is performing activities that require vocalization (like talking or singing) at a gathering (Novascotia.ca coronavirus (NS). July 20, 2021)
- Making alcohol-based hand sanitizers (60%) available to guests at touch points.
- At rehearsals the chorus will move from one side of the room every half hour while practicing (intent is to allow small particles to settle).

Screening:

- Participants shall provide the enhanced vaccine certificate with the QR code to gain access to settings that require proof of vaccination.
 - The QR code to be validated by the "Verify Ontario app".
 - In addition to QR code vaccine verification, participants shall provide proof of identity:
 - Name of the identification holder; and
 - Date of birth (Government of Ontario, n.d).
- A list of Covid 19 symptoms should be posted at entrance locations and attendees should be asked to confirm they do not have symptoms of COVID-19, have not been in close contact with a known case of COVID-19, and are not required to self-isolate for any reason. Persons with symptoms must not enter and must not participate.
- A sign-in list will be available at each rehearsal; participants to read the list of the Covid 19 symptoms with a sign-in acknowledging that they do not have symptoms.
- The sign-in register will list the participants and contact information to assist Public Health with contact tracing, if needed.
- Records shall be kept for a minimum of 30 days after the event or activity has taken place ((Novascotia.ca coronavirus (NS, July 20, 2021)
- Members must self-report with a proof of vaccination status or a negative COVID test within the past 72 hours. (Novascotia.ca coronavirus (NS), July 21, 2021).
- Singing indoors is not recommended for individuals who have not been fully vaccinated (Barbershop Harmony Society, 04 Aug, 2021).



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If there is a potential case:

- If there is a confirmed case, linked to a rehearsal, the chorus will be notified (usually by email) of the incident. Rehearsals shall be suspended for 14 days.
- Those that are sick or symptomatic are required to obtain a Covid 19 test and self-isolate in accordance with the health department guidelines.
- Should a rehearsal attendee display Covid 19 symptoms, they shall be separated from other participants and immediately escorted to the exit. The rehearsal shall be immediately suspended. Relevant surfaces shall be disinfected.

Chorus Concerts

Additional Considerations for a Concert - Seating and Management of the Crowd:

- The elements of the "Safety Plan for Rehearsals" applies to the concerts.
- Members of a performing group should avoid mingling with audience members, patrons, venue staff, or volunteers during or after performances.
- Seat spacing will be identified by marking seats to maintain spacing (2 metre).
- Ushers may be used to guide patrons directly to the appropriate seats affording greater control and allowing the MoA to load and unload the room/site safely.
- Records of attendees of the event to be retained for a minimum of 30 days after the event or activity has taken place (NS, July 20, 2021).

Suggestions for Covid 19 mitigation at Concerts could include:

- Using electronic ticketing if possible.
- Installing barriers to protect staff at box office.
- Ensuring non-medical masks are provided to all staff.
- Ensuring guests know that masks are required upon entry (people with a valid medical reason for not wearing a mask are exempt, as well as children under 2 and children 2 to 4 when their caregiver can't get them to wear a mask).
- Using electronic ticketing to minimize paper ticketing.
- Implementing assigned entry door numbers to reduce crowds at main doors.
- Installing traffic flow signage.
- Installing physical distancing controls for queuing for parking and entry to the venue/ event.
- Adopting touchless ticket scanning -- guest retains ticket or electronic device during scanning.
- Relocating scanning locations away from doorway to promote physical distancing.
- Making alcohol-based hand sanitizers (60%) available to guests at touch points.
- Ensuring microphones, headphones, and other personal equipment are not shared, and are sanitized before and after each use (NS, July 20, 2021)



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Revisions

This Safety Plan will be reviewed once per quarter at the MoA Board Meeting, where the effectiveness of the plan, need for revisions and incidences of Covid 19 illness will be discussed. The revision history is listed at the end of this document.

References:

Choirs Ontario, August 04, 2021. Chorus Regulations as of Today, retrieved from https://docs.google.com/document/d/1t7NZSGRuVz3fRVB-mirl_pNceNOubeQLyPDSbkh95s/edit

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Barbershop Harmony Society, 04 Aug, 2021.COVID-19 INTERIM GUIDANCE FOR BHS ENSEMBLES AND SINGING COMMUNITIES V1.5

Government of Ontario, Ministry of Health. Sep 02, 2021. Face Coverings and Face Masks (Vocalist and Instrumentalist). Retrieved from <https://www.ontario.ca/page/face-coverings-and-face-masks#section-1>

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Revision History:

Rev Nr 18 Aug 2021
Rev A 16 Sep 2021
Rev B 09 Feb 2022