

RE: announcement banquet hall closure

From: Ingrid Jarrett <ingrid.jarrett@bcha.com>
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Brouwer, Shauna TAC:EX <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>, Azam, Salman TAC:EX <Salman.Azam@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 12, 2020 9:01:39 AM PDT
Received: September 12, 2020 9:01:44 AM PDT
Attachments: image002.png

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Thank you very much Dr. Emerson for the clarification – I have communicated to the industry this clarification and will continue to do so.

Best Regards;

Ingrid

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 11, 2020 11:03 AM
To: Ingrid Jarrett <ingrid.jarrett@bcha.com>
Cc: Brouwer, Shauna TAC:EX <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>; Azam, Salman TAC:EX <Salman.Azam@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: announcement banquet hall closure

Good morning Ingrid.

The oral provincial health officer order issued Tuesday does not apply to hotels that are holding events (e.g., weddings).

We are working on publishing a final order with a definition of “stand-alone banquet halls” to ensure clarity, but in general I anticipate that the venues affected will be places which have as a primary function hosting large groups, generally hundreds of people, for banquets or other social events that are not part of larger structures like hotels, houses of worship, private clubs or recreation centres; with other criteria to be determined.

In addition if helpful other aspects of Dr. Henry’s oral order are directed at nightclubs, bars, pubs and restaurants. It does not include events being held in hotel social-event type of rooms. Specifically from the news release:

“Liquor sales in all bars, pubs and restaurants must cease at 10 p.m. and they must close at 11 p.m., unless providing a full meal service, in which case they may stay open, but may not serve liquor until 11 a.m. the following day.”

“Music or other background sounds, such as from televisions in bars, lounges, pubs and restaurants, must be no louder than the volume of normal conversation.”

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0049-001688>

Regards,

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

From: Ingrid Jarrett <ingrid.jarrett@bcha.com>
Sent: September 11, 2020 7:41 AM
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Brouwer, Shauna TAC:EX <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>; Azam, Salman TAC:EX <Salman.Azam@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: announcement banquet hall closure

Good Morning Dr. Emerson;

I am receiving numerous emails from hotels telling me clients are cancelling their meetings booked in conference facilities because the client interprets the last order to include hotel banquet/conference facilities.

When the written order comes out – please include an exception for hotels.

Thank you very much

Ingrid

Ingrid Jarrett

President & CEO

Direct 604.443.4750 www.bcha.com <<http://www.bcha.com/>>

"Advocate and spokesperson for the interests of the Hotel Industry throughout British Columbia since 1917"

RE: recent PHO orders

From: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX ^{s.15}
s.15

To: MacDonald, Alex LBR:EX

Cc: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX, Nicola Lambrechts, Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX

Sent: September 14, 2020 8:58:46 AM PDT

Received: September 14, 2020 8:58:47 AM PDT

Attachments: MLALetnickLetter bh rev.docx

Thanks Alex, I like your revisions. Brian if you could have a quick look and then we can put on my letterhead and send to Norm.

My best,

Bonnie

Dr Bonnie Henry

Provincial Health Officer

Office of the PHO

Ministry of Health

s.15; s.19

Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT

Victoria, BC

V8W 9P4

Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca

Phone: ^{s.17; s.19}

I gratefully acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional unceded territory of the Lekwungen Peoples, specifically the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. Hay'sxw'qu Si'em

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From: MacDonald, Alex LBR:EX <Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 11, 2020 7:29 PM
To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: recent PHO orders

Maybe I got out of hand with my edits once I got started.

I've attached them in a tracked changes word document.

Just want to make it clear that this is a problem that was clear in all regions of BC and therefore required a province-wide solution. And also to point out clearly that regional approaches undermine any direction and can lead to broader transmission of the virus.

Hope my edits are helpful.

-Alex

From: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 11, 2020 5:35 PM
To: MacDonald, Alex LBR:EX <Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: recent PHO orders

Hi Alex,

This is the information for Norm Letnick regarding the closure of nightclubs and standalone banquet facilities. I would appreciate your advice/editing.

We have been managing the restart and covid pandemic in a consistent way across the province because we know that the introduction of the virus can happen anywhere given travel patterns etc. and the continued circulation of the virus in communities in BC and around us. In the recent weeks a large proportion of new cases were linked to late evening/night parties at nightclubs, banquet halls and bars or restaurants that have limited menus and serve drinks in a bar like setting after 10 or 11. We made a number of public warning =s about these issues in all health authorities but the focus and the greatest number of cases were in VCH, FH and IH. The numbers continue to increase and public health teams were becoming increasingly challenged finding people who were exposed as contact information was lacking. As well many attempts to make the environments safer through adjustments to orders were not working and we had illness in both staff who were exposed in their workplaces as well as customers. We also received complaints that staff were having challenges getting customers to comply with safety precautions later in the evening. We discussed options to address the issue and all health authorities agreed this was an issue in every jurisdiction and that resources were being stretched to manage as cases and contacts increased. We are also now seeing spillover into workplaces, homes etc.

After provincial consultation I made the decision to amend the PHO order to close nightclubs and standalone banquet halls and to limit sales of alcohol to address the timing when we were seeing challenges arise. We also included measures to address noise levels as this was a frequent reported concern from both staff and patrons.

The merits of a region-specific limitation have been considered; however, regional variation does mean different methods, which can appear to the public as inconsistencies and possibly weaken public health and government actions.. The risk of virus introduction anywhere remains a very real possibility and supports the need for our consistent, provincial-wide approach to COVID-19. If evidence and the epidemiology of the disease indicates a regional approach is warranted, and we can be assured our other actions will not undermined, we would consider such an approach in the future.

Thanks!

Dr Bonnie Henry

Provincial Health Officer

Office of the PHO

Ministry of Health

s.15; s.19

Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT

Victoria, BC

V8W 9P4

Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca

Phone: s.17; s.19

I gratefully acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional unceded territory of the Lekwungen Peoples, specifically the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. Hay'sxw'qu Si'em

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Page 006 of 145

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

FW: Banquet Hall Association News Release

From: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX s.15
s.15

To: MacDonald, Alex LBR:EX, Yeung, Lucinda HLTH:EX
Sent: September 14, 2020 9:00:33 AM PDT
Received: September 14, 2020 9:00:34 AM PDT
Attachments: Close Banquet Halls NR Aug 20 2020.jpg

FYI, this was some of the releases from the banquet hall association.

Bonnie

Dr Bonnie Henry

Provincial Health Officer

Office of the PHO

Ministry of Health

s.15; s.19

Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT

Victoria, BC

V8W 9P4

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From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 11, 2020 5:04 PM
To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Banquet Hall Association News Release

Attached is the news release, which is at

<https://www.facebook.com/1495309004101618/posts/2439040529728456/?extid=93GsaRws67GtyQlm&d=n>

It was reported by CBC at

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/bc-banquet-halls-1.5697681>

I could not find a website for the Association.

Have a good weekend!

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C^{s.17} F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

RE: Letter to MLA Letnick RE: recent PHO orders

From: Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX <Laurel.Thompson@gov.bc.ca>
To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 14, 2020 4:18:31 PM PDT
Received: September 14, 2020 4:18:34 PM PDT
Attachments: 1176645 MLA Letnick re PHO Orders.docx

Hi Bonnie,

Please find attached for your final review.

Thanks,

Laurel Thompson | Executive Coordinator
Office of the Provincial Health Officer, Ministry of Health

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 14, 2020 4:03 PM
To: Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX <Laurel.Thompson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Letter to MLA Letnick RE: recent PHO orders

Hi Laurel.

Attached is the revised letter to set up on letterhead, then to Bonnie for final approval given there have been an number of changes since the initial draft she saw.

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX
Sent: September 14, 2020 2:30 PM
To: MacDonald, Alex LBR:EX <Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX <Laurel.Thompson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Letter to MLA Letnick RE: recent PHO orders

That is helpful Alex.

I will run the version I sent you by Bonnie for her approval.

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)

BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

From: MacDonald, Alex LBR:EX <Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 14, 2020 11:54 AM
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX <Laurel.Thompson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Letter to MLA Letnick RE: recent PHO orders

The commitment to the letter was one from a call/briefing with Norm that I wasn't on. Apparently Bonnie made the commitment to get a letter. Norm's text messages to me just asked for a PHO letter re: new orders.

I know Liberal caucus members have asked for more info on the amended order last week as they received inquiries from businesses in the community. And the aspect that gets to the regionally varied orders is something the Liberals bring up again and again because some see COVID-19 as a Lower Mainland problem and that they should have more relaxed orders in the Interior/North.

-Alex

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 14, 2020 11:09 AM
To: MacDonald, Alex LBR:EX <Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX <Laurel.Thompson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Letter to MLA Letnick RE: recent PHO orders

Hi Alex.

Further to your edits I have made a few more, but what I am missing is the actual question/concern/history of the need for this letter.

I crafted an opening paragraph based on very brief chat on Friday with Bonnie but would appreciate your suggestions for the opening, and please take one more look at the letter before we finalize.

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

From: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 14, 2020 8:59 AM
To: MacDonald, Alex LBR:EX <Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>; 'Nicola Lambrechts' <nicola@nlkstrategies.ca>; Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX <Laurel.Thompson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: recent PHO orders

Thanks Alex, I like your revisions. Brian if you could have a quick look and then we can put on my letterhead and send to Norm.

My best,

Bonnie

Dr Bonnie Henry

Provincial Health Officer

Office of the PHO

Ministry of Health

s.15; s.19

Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT

Victoria, BC

V8W 9P4

Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca

Phone: s.17; s.19

I gratefully acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional unceded territory of the Lekwungen Peoples, specifically the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. Hay'sxw'qu Si'em

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From: MacDonald, Alex LBR:EX <Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: September 11, 2020 7:29 PM

To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: recent PHO orders

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Just want to make it clear that this is a problem that was clear in all regions of BC and therefore required a province-wide solution. And also to point out clearly that regional approaches undermine any direction and can lead to broader transmission of the virus.

Hope my edits are helpful.

-Alex

From: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: September 11, 2020 5:35 PM

To: MacDonald, Alex LBR:EX <Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: recent PHO orders

Hi Alex,

This is the information for Norm Letnick regarding the closure of nightclubs and standalone banquet facilities. I would appreciate your advice/editing.

We have been managing the restart and covid pandemic in a consistent way across the province because we know that the introduction of the virus can happen anywhere given travel patterns etc. and the continued circulation of the virus in communities in BC and around us. In the recent weeks a large proportion of new cases were linked to late evening/night parties at nightclubs, banquet halls and bars or restaurants that have limited menus and serve drinks in a bar like setting after 10 or 11. We made a number of public warning =s about these issues in all health authorities but the focus and the greatest number of cases were in VCH, FH and IH. The numbers continue to increase and public health teams were becoming increasingly challenged finding people who were exposed as contact information was lacking. As well many attempts to make the environments safer through adjustments to orders were not working and we had illness in both staff who were exposed in their workplaces as well as customers. We also received complaints that staff were having challenges getting customers to comply with safety precautions later in the evening. We discussed options to address the issue and all health authorities agreed this was an issue in every jurisdiction and that resources were being stretched to manage as cases and contacts increased. We are also now seeing spillover into workplaces, homes etc.

After provincial consultation I made the decision to amend the PHO order to close nightclubs and standalone banquet halls and to limit sales of alcohol to address the timing when we were seeing challenges arise. We also included measures to address noise levels as this was a frequent reported concern from both staff and patrons.

The merits of a region-specific limitation have been considered; however, regional variation does mean different methods, which can appear to the public as inconsistencies and possibly weaken public health and government actions.. The risk of virus introduction anywhere remains a very real possibility and supports the need for our consistent, provincial-wide approach to COVID-19. If evidence and the epidemiology of the disease indicates a regional approach is warranted, and we can be assured our other actions will not undermined, we would consider such an approach in the future.

Thanks!

Dr Bonnie Henry

Provincial Health Officer

Office of the PHO

Ministry of Health

s.15; s.19

Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT

Victoria, BC

V8W 9P4

Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca

Phone: s.17; s.19

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1176645

September 14, 2020

Mr. Norm Letnick, MLA
101 - 330 Hwy 33 West
Kelowna, BC V1X 1X9

Dear Mr. Letnick:

Further to your question about regional approaches to management of COVID-19 and recent decisions with respect to nightclubs, banquet halls, and limits on hours of liquor service I am pleased to provide the following information.

Since the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic and with the ongoing restart plans, we have implemented many of our decisions consistently throughout the province. We know that the introduction of the virus can happen anywhere and at any time. Given travel patterns and the continued circulation and risk of introduction of the virus in communities in BC and in neighbouring jurisdictions we know that consistent messages and actions in all regions improves public confidence and compliance with public health advice and orders.

In the recent weeks a large proportion of new cases were linked to late evening parties at nightclubs, banquet halls and bars or restaurants that have limited menus and serve drinks in a bar-like setting after 10pm. The greatest number of cases were in Vancouver Coastal Health, Fraser Health and Interior Health. We made several public warnings about these issues to all health authorities.

However, cases of COVID-19 continued to increase, hospitalizations and admissions to intensive care units have increased and public health teams are spending significant resources attempting to find people who were exposed as contact information was lacking at many of these locations.

Many attempts to make the environments safer through adjustments to orders and guidance were having limited effects and we had illnesses in both staff who were exposed in their workplaces as well as customers. We also received complaints that staff were having challenges getting customers to comply with safety precautions later into the evening.

...\2

Public health officials in all health authorities discussed options to address the issue and all agreed this was an issue that threatened public health in every jurisdiction and that resources were being stretched to manage as cases and contacts increased. These increased cases and contacts are due to increased socialization and related parties fueled by liquor at nightclubs, banquet halls, bars and restaurants threaten communities throughout BC.

After provincial consultation I made the decision to amend the Provincial Health Officer order to close nightclubs and stand-alone banquet halls and to limit sales of liquor after 10pm when we were seeing many of the reported issues occurring.

We also included measures to address music and noise levels as this increases socialization and was a frequently reported as a concern from both staff and patrons who were forced to speak loudly and even shout, potentially spreading their droplets to those in closer proximity.

The merits of region-specific public health measures have been considered. However, regional variation appears to the public as inconsistencies and may weaken compliance with public health and government measures meant to protect people from the spread of COVID-19.

The risk of virus introduction anywhere remains a very real possibility and supports the need for our consistent, provincial-wide approach to COVID-19. If evidence and the epidemiology of the disease indicates a regional approach is warranted, and we can be assured our other actions will not be undermined, we would consider such an approach in the future.

Thank again for your query and I hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bonnie Henry', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bonnie Henry
MD, MPH, FRCPC
Provincial Health Officer

FW: Banquet Hall closure clarification

From: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 15, 2020 8:49:40 AM PDT
Received: September 15, 2020 8:49:41 AM PDT
Attachments: image003.png, image002.png

Would you mind responding to this one as well.

Thanks,

Bonnie

Dr Bonnie Henry

Provincial Health Officer

Office of the PHO

Ministry of Health

s.15; s.19

Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT

Victoria, BC

V8W 9P4

Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca

Phone: s.17; s.19

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From: Shypitka.MLA, Tom <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: September 15, 2020 8:14 AM
To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Banquet Hall closure clarification
Importance: High

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good Morning

We are needing clarification on what a standalone banquet hall is please. The Cranbrook History Centre has many upcoming events and are uncertain if the order includes or excludes them. Please see bottom email outlining the plight of the Cranbrook History Centre, which is a museum, gift shop, home of a Railway Museum, archives and home of the historic Royal Alexander Hall.

Kind regards

Christy Wheeldon

Constituency Assistant
Tom Shypitka, MLA
Kootenay East
302 535 Victoria Ave N.,
Cranbrook, British Columbia V1C6S3

Office: 1 877 417 6022

Fax : (250) 417-6026

Email Christy.Wheeldon@leg.bc.ca

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From: MLA (SM) [<mailto:MLA@worksafebc.com>]
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 4:20 PM
To: Shypitka.MLA, Tom <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; MLA (SM) <MLA@worksafebc.com>
Cc: Smith, Heather <Heather.Smith@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Banquet Hall closure clarification

Good afternoon Christy,

Unfortunately, we aren't able to assist on this enquiry. You will need to ask the office of the Provincial Health Officer, since it's their order.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer>
<<https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer&data=01|01|Bianca.Fary@worksafebc.com|bc18fabed11b409e4c8008d858fa6c9a|05c5c963c8394c9eb5c1b51b3799ac37|1&sdata=CIYxyVdhxcNnDWUEeCaxrGM01I7awWUoTHUAMgYpulo=&reserved=0>>

Best regards,

Bianca Fary

Administrative Coordinator, Government, Community & Media Relations

Tel: 604.276.3113

WorkSafeBC
6951 Westminster Hwy, Richmond, BC
worksafebc.com <<http://www.worksafebc.com/>>

From: Shypitka.MLA, Tom [mailto:Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca]
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 9:17 AM
To: MLA (SM) <MLA@worksafebc.com>
Cc: Smith, Heather <Heather.Smith@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Banquet Hall closure clarification
Importance: High

WARNING: This email originated from outside of our organization. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning

Could you please assist in clarification? The order is specific to "stand alone banquet halls" Please see below email form the Cranbrook History Centre.

Kind regards

Christy Wheeldon

Constituency Assistant
Tom Shypitka, MLA
Kootenay East
302 535 Victoria Ave N.,
Cranbrook, British Columbia V1C6S3

Office: 1 877 417 6022

Fax : (250) 417-6026

Email Christy.Wheeldon@leg.bc.ca

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From: Honor Neve ~ Chief Curator [mailto:curator@cranbrookhistorycentre.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 3:16 PM
To: Shypitka.MLA, Tom <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: Valerie Bourne ~ Business Manager <office@cranbrookhistorycentre.com>
Subject: Banquet Hall closure clarification

Hello Heather

The Cranbrook History Centre is requesting more information about the recent order to close all stand-alone banquet halls. The History Centre is primarily a community museum but it also houses the historic Royal Alexandra Hall which is available for groups to rent for their events. We have been very cognicent of the health orders put in place and those

few rentals we have hosted have been strictly monitored. The normal capacity of the Hall is 280 people for seated, meetings, concerts, wedding ceremonies, or other assembly events. The History Centre also has a large entrance hall and reception hall adjacent to the Royal Alexandra Hall which allows for physical distancing with no choke points. Our own protocols are clearly posted for both the museum visitors and renters. All protocols are reviewed with potential renters before the event is confirmed.

Our current protocols limit rentals to 50 people (including supervising staff) or fewer. Theatre style seating with chairs 2m apart is recommended but we have also had small tables of 2-6 people. In that case the tables are set-up 2m apart. Masks must be worn anytime guests are out of their seat and sanitizing stations are provided by the museum. No food service is allowed unless catered by an food provider with a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place. The museum does not provide refreshments.

I am not the primary contact for our events but am filling in while our Business Manager, Valerie Bourne is on holiday. Key City Theatre is hosting a small concert here in 3 weeks and will begin advertising the event on monday so a quick response as to whether we may continue with our current protocols is greatly appreciated. If you require anymore information please let me know.

Regards,

Honor Neve, Chief Curator

Cranbrook History Centre

curator@cranbrookhistorycentre.com

250-489-3918

As more information and resources about COVID-19 become available, we will continue to update the COVID-19 section of our website at worksafebc.com. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube for the latest announcements, jobs, workplace health and safety resources, and news from WorkSafeBC.

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RE: Banquet Hall closure clarification

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX s.15
To: Wheeldon, Christy LASS:EX
Cc: (Ashley.Halicki@gov.bc.ca), Bruce, Alan, Greer, Shannon GCPE:EX (Shannon.Greer@gov.bc.ca), Jessica HLTH:EX Havens (Jessica.Havens@gov.bc.ca), Lawrie, Hannah, Sullivan, Michelle, Thompson, Laurel
Sent: September 15, 2020 2:01:22 PM PDT
Received: September 15, 2020 2:01:00 PM PDT
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png

Dear Christy Wheeldon.

Thank you for your email to Dr. Bonnie Henry below about the definition of "stand-alone banquet halls". It has been forwarded to me and I am pleased to respond on her behalf.

We are working on a definition of these venues. We anticipate excluding community organization owned/operated venues. As such the order is not anticipated to affect a place like the Cranbrook History Centre so planning for events there should continue.

We anticipate publishing the written order about events in these venues later this week.

Sincerely,

Brian Emerson

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 Cs.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

From: Shypitka.MLA, Tom <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: September 15, 2020 8:14 AM
To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Banquet Hall closure clarification
Importance: High

Good Morning

We are needing clarification on what a standalone banquet hall is please. The Cranbrook History Centre has many upcoming events and are uncertain if the order includes or excludes them. Please see bottom email outlining the plight of the Cranbrook History Centre, which is a museum, gift shop, home of a Railway Museum, archives and home of the historic Royal Alexander Hall.

Kind regards

Christy Wheeldon

Constituency Assistant
Tom Shypitka, MLA
Kootenay East

302 535 Victoria Ave N.,
Cranbrook, British Columbia V1C6S3

Office: 1 877 417 6022

Fax : (250) 417-6026

Email Christy.Wheeldon@leg.bc.ca

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From: MLA (SM) [<mailto:MLA@worksafebc.com>]
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 4:20 PM
To: Shypitka.MLA, Tom <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; MLA (SM) <MLA@worksafebc.com>
Cc: Smith, Heather <Heather.Smith@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Banquet Hall closure clarification

Good afternoon Christy,

Unfortunately, we aren't able to assist on this enquiry. You will need to ask the office of the Provincial Health Officer, since it's their order.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer>
<<https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer&data=01|01|Bianca.Fary@worksafebc.com|bc18fbed11b409e4c8008d858fa6c9a|05c5c963c8394c9eb5c1b51b3799ac37|1&sdata=CIYxyVdhxcNnDWUEeCaxrGM01I7awWUoTHUAMgYpulo=&reserved=0>>

Best regards,

Bianca Fary

Administrative Coordinator, Government, Community & Media Relations

Tel: 604.276.3113

WorkSafeBC
6951 Westminster Hwy, Richmond, BC
[worksafebc.com](http://www.worksafebc.com/) <<http://www.worksafebc.com/>>

From: Shypitka.MLA, Tom [<mailto:Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 9:17 AM
To: MLA (SM) <MLA@worksafebc.com>
Cc: Smith, Heather <Heather.Smith@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Banquet Hall closure clarification
Importance: High

WARNING: This email originated from outside of our organization. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning

Could you please assist in clarification? The order is specific to "stand alone banquet halls" Please see below email form the Cranbrook History Centre.

Kind regards

Christy Wheeldon

Constituency Assistant
Tom Shypitka, MLA
Kootenay East
302 535 Victoria Ave N.,
Cranbrook, British Columbia V1C6S3

Office: 1 877 417 6022

Fax : (250) 417-6026

Email Christy.Wheeldon@leg.bc.ca

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From: Honor Neve ~ Chief Curator [<mailto:curator@cranbrookhistorycentre.com>]
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 3:16 PM
To: Shypitka.MLA, Tom <Tom.Shypitka.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: Valerie Bourne ~ Business Manager <office@cranbrookhistorycentre.com>
Subject: Banquet Hall closure clarification

Hello Heather

The Cranbrook History Centre is requesting more information about the recent order to close all stand-alone banquet halls. The History Centre is primarily a community museum but it also houses the historic Royal Alexandra Hall which is available for groups to rent for their events. We have been very cognicent of the health orders put in place and those few rentals we have hosted have been strictly monitored. The normal capacity of the Hall is 280 people for seated, meetings, concerts, wedding ceremonies, or other assembly events. The History Centre also has a large entrance hall and reception hall adjacent to the Royal Alexandra Hall which allows for physcial distancing with no choke points. Our own protocols are clearly posted for both the museum visitors and renters. All protocols are reviewed with potential renters before the event is confirmed.

Our current protocols limit rentals to 50 people (including supervising staff) or fewer. Theatre style seating with chairs 2m apart is recommended but we have also had small tables of 2-6 people. In that case the tables are set-up 2m apart. Masks must be worn anytime guests are out of their seat and sanitizing stations are provided by the museum. No food service is allowed unless catered by an food provider with a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place. The museum does not provide refreshments.

I am not the primary contact for our events but am filling in while our Business Manager, Valerie Bourne is on holiday. Key City Theatre is hosting a small concert here in 3 weeks and will begin advertising the event on monday so a quick

response as to whether we may continue with our current protocols is greatly appreciated. If you require anymore information please let me know.

Regards,

Honor Neve, Chief Curator

Cranbrook History Centre

curator@cranbrookhistorycentre.com

250-489-3918

As more information and resources about COVID-19 become available, we will continue to update the COVID-19 section of our website at worksafebc.com. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube for the latest announcements, jobs, workplace health and safety resources, and news from WorkSafeBC.

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Fwd: Meeting room rental

From: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 16, 2020 11:39:54 AM PDT
Received: September 16, 2020 11:39:55 AM PDT

Dr Bonnie Henry

Provincial Health Officer

Ministry of Health

Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca

s.17; s.19

Begin forwarded message:

From: s.22
Date: September 16, 2020 at 11:36:07 AM PDT
To: "Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX" <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: s.22
Subject: Meeting room rental

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

To whom it may concern.

The recent order coming down from the government stated that free-standing banquet halls were to be shut down for Covid. I would like to rent the large basement room of a local Best Western inn for a group of less than 50 people and we would practise all the social distancing, sanitizing, less than 50 people etc. As well, we are not eating (banqueting) but simply meeting and are being told by Best Western that they cannot rent the room due to Government mandate.

My question is this: Does a basement meeting room in a Best Western qualify as a free-standing banquet hall? Even if we are not eating?

I am hoping that if our desire to rent this spot is actually allowed to happen, that you can direct me as to how best to sort this out.

Your attention is very much appreciated.

Regards.

s.22

Provincial Health Order re: nightclubs, banquet halls, restaurants and bars

From: East Village <info@eastvillagevancouver.ca>
To: Premier@gov.bc.ca, bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca, patty.daly@vch.ca,
hlth.minister@gov.bc.ca, OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX, Henry, Bonnie
HLTH:EX, XT:HLTH Daly, Patty, Minister, HLTH HLTH:EX
Sent: September 17, 2020 12:15:46 PM PDT
Received: September 17, 2020 12:16:02 PM PDT
Attachments: BIABC Letter - PHO Amendments 10092020.pdf

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Premier Horgan;

Please find attached a letter sent on behalf of the BIAs across British Columbia expressing our concern regarding the most recent Public Health Order for Nightclubs, Banquet Halls, Restaurants and Bars. We are very concerned about the financial impact on the majority who have been obeying all the provincial health regulations to stop the spread of COVID 19 due to the actions of a few. We would like to be clear that we believe those who violate the public health regulations should be penalized and closed if necessary but we would rather see a surgical implementation aimed at the violators than a blunt instrument that penalizes all.

Thank you for your consideration;

Patricia Barnes, Executive Director

Hastings North BIA

2620 E. Hastings Street

Vancouver, BC, V5K 1Z6

Tel: 604-215-2401

Fax: 604-216-0991

www.eastvillagevancouver.ca <<http://www.eastvillagevancouver.ca/>>

Sept. 10, 2020

Honourable John Horgan
Premier and President of the Executive Council
West Annex Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Premier Horgan,

I am writing on behalf of Business Improvement Areas of British Columbia (BIABC), the provincial umbrella organization representing more than 60 business districts across B.C. Collectively, this constitutes hundreds of thousands of retail, service and office employees – mostly small and medium-sized businesses – the backbone of B.C.’s economy. Since its inception in 1991, BIABC has been committed to championing strong, vibrant and successful downtowns, main streets and commercial districts across the province.

The decision to issue a general and immediate, sector specific closure along with other operational restrictions without consultation or consideration of alternative measures to ensure adherence to proper health and safety protocols will significantly impact B.C.’s economy, result in the loss of jobs and unnecessarily penalize compliant businesses. We absolutely understand the critical need to reduce the risk of virus transmission, however, rather than shutting down or imposing blanket restrictions on an entire sector, we suggest and support a more equitable and effective approach through the targeting of non-compliant businesses with harsher penalties.

The restaurant and hospitality industry has made significant investments to re-open safely and provide a pleasant experience for its customers. Overall, business owners and staff have done an excellent job in complying with all of the new health and safety protocols put in place by our government and should not be measured by the actions of a few. This important sector not only contributes in a meaningful way to the economy, but also to the general well-being of people longing for social interaction and connection during this pandemic.

The economic vitality of our city and province is dependent on the small business sector recovering and continuing to purchase supplies, provide jobs and pay rent, taxes, etc. This sector needs as much support as possible from the government and we therefore respectfully request that we move forward in a collaborative and consultative way that takes into consideration the physical, mental and financial health of all British Columbians.

495 W. Georgia Street PO Box 4718 |
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 4A4 e: info@biabc.ca |
t: 1.888.865.6580

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Smith", enclosed within a rectangular box.

Teri Smith, President

Business
Improvement
Areas of BC

Cc: Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, Province of B.C.

Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer

Dr. Patricia Daly, Vice President, Public Health, Chief Medical Health Officer, Vancouver Coastal
Health

assistance with public order definition: free standing banquet hall

From: Christabel <s.22>
To: brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca, Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX
Sent: September 17, 2020 2:14:33 PM PDT
Received: September 17, 2020 2:14:48 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Brian

I found your name on an email you wrote to a wedding industry professional that was posted on an online forum. Im the owner of one of the larger catering firms on Vancouver Island. Im hoping you can give me an update on a definition for the term "free standing banquet hall."

We've lost several thousand dollars worth of bookings this week alone because venues are cancelling events. These are events are all under 50 in a variety of venues - community halls and remote lodges, for example. All other aspects of physical distance and safe serving can be easily met in these venues. In a couple of cases, the host has decided (for lack of a venue) just to have a home based potluck instead without any professional vendors in place to ensure restrictions are observed. In the best of times, a potluck-house party is a potential health hazard, right now it seems like a really bad idea.

In any case, it appears venues are making arbitrary decisions to cancel due to a lack of clarity on the definition and what is allowed. Based on what you wrote to s.22 it seems their interpretations of the term free standing banquet hall is not what was intended in the order.

We're wondering if you have a time line for releasing further details? Also, if you're looking for any industry consultation I'm happy to chat.

I appreciate you must all be very busy in your office. I wanted to wait patiently for more information to be released, but the business implications are quite high and time sensitive. As you can imagine we were already in quite a precarious situation business wise.

Thank you very much for your time

Christabel

--

--

Christabel Padmore, President (250 514 3235 direct)
Little Piggy Catering <<http://www.littlepiggycatering.com/>>Tel: 250-483-3779, 776 Fairview Rd Victoria BC, Canada

Promoting Plant Forward Menus, Ethical Meats and Sustainable Seafood since 2006

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Caterer of the Year 2019 - Finalist - British Columbia Wedding Awards

Top Choice - Victoria's Best Caterer, 2018, finalist 2019

RE: New Orders for Review

From: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <s.15 s.15>
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX
Sent: September 18, 2020 7:41:05 AM PDT
Received: September 18, 2020 7:41:05 AM PDT
Attachments: PHO-Class Order Gatherings and Events (COVID-19) Sept 17 consult.docx

Looks good, just a teeny spelling change and added 'generally' involving hundreds of people.

That ok?

B

Dr Bonnie Henry

Provincial Health Officer

Office of the PHO

Ministry of Health

s.15; s.19

Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT

Victoria, BC

V8W 9P4

Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca

Phone: s.17; s.19

I gratefully acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional unceded territory of the Lekwungen Peoples, specifically the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. Hay'sxw'qu Si'em

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From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 17, 2020 8:59 PM
To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: New Orders for Review

Hi Bonnie.

Attached are close to final versions of the new proposed orders – an updated Gatherings And Events order and newly titled Food And Liquor Serving Premises order (was the Restaurants, Coffee Shops, Cafes, Cafeterias and Licensed Premises, including Pubs, Bars, Lounges, Nightclubs and Tasting Rooms order).

Sorry this took longer than anticipated but coordinating revisions to both for coherence was a challenge, and other priorities for both me and Fiona kept intervening.

The main changes are as follows, and I have highlighted specifics as well in the orders:

1. All “events” are now in the Gatherings and Events order. Previously events were in both orders which was leading to uncertainty and inequitable application.

s.13

11. The requirement for both event organizer and owner to hold lists of event attendees was removed as thought to be unnecessary duplication.

s.13

Hope this is close to the mark and let me know what you think. We have not run this past industry – could do tomorrow that but will delay publishing. The other option is to publish and then ask for industry feedback because if any major unforeseen problems we can easily change.

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C 250.952.1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

Page 033 of 145 to/à Page 039 of 145

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

ENCLOSURE

Excerpts of the *PUBLIC HEALTH ACT*

Public Health Act [SBC 2008] c. 28

Definitions

1 In this Act:

"health hazard" means

- (a) a condition, a thing or an activity that
 - (i) endangers, or is likely to endanger, public health, or
 - (ii) interferes, or is likely to interfere, with the suppression of infectious agents or hazardous agents, or
- (b) a prescribed condition, thing or activity, including a prescribed condition, thing or activity that
 - (i) is associated with injury or illness, or
 - (ii) fails to meet a prescribed standard in relation to health, injury or illness;

When orders respecting health hazards and contraventions may be made

30 (1) A health officer may issue an order under this Division only if the health officer reasonably believes that

- (a) a health hazard exists,
- (b) a condition, a thing or an activity presents a significant risk of causing a health hazard,
- (c) a person has contravened a provision of the Act or a regulation made under it, or

(d) a person has contravened a term or condition of a licence or permit held by the person under this Act.

(2) For greater certainty, subsection (1) (a) to (c) applies even if the person subject to the order is complying with all terms and conditions of a licence, a permit, an approval or another authorization issued under this or any other enactment.

General powers respecting health hazards and contraventions

31 (1) If the circumstances described in section 30 [*when orders respecting health hazards and contraventions may be made*] apply, a health officer may order a person to do anything that the health officer reasonably believes is necessary for any of the following purposes:

- (a) to determine whether a health hazard exists;
- (b) to prevent or stop a health hazard, or mitigate the harm or prevent further harm from a health hazard;
- (c) to bring the person into compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it;
- (d) to bring the person into compliance with a term or condition of a licence or permit held by that person under this Act.

(2) A health officer may issue an order under subsection (1) to any of the following persons:

- (a) a person whose action or omission
 - (i) is causing or has caused a health hazard, or
 - (ii) is not in compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it, or a term or condition of the person's licence or permit;
- (b) a person who has custody or control of a thing, or control of a condition, that
 - (i) is a health hazard or is causing or has caused a health hazard, or

- (ii) is not in compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it, or a term or condition of the person's licence or permit;
- (c) the owner or occupier of a place where
 - (i) a health hazard is located, or
 - (ii) an activity is occurring that is not in compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it, or a term or condition of the licence or permit of the person doing the activity.

Specific powers respecting health hazards and contraventions

32 (1) An order may be made under this section only

- (a) if the circumstances described in section 30 [*when orders respecting health hazards and contraventions may be made*] apply, and
- (b) for the purposes set out in section 31 (1) [*general powers respecting health hazards and contraventions*].

(2) Without limiting section 31, a health officer may order a person to do one or more of the following:

- (a) have a thing examined, disinfected, decontaminated, altered or destroyed, including
 - (i) by a specified person, or under the supervision or instructions of a specified person,
 - (ii) moving the thing to a specified place, and
 - (iii) taking samples of the thing, or permitting samples of the thing to be taken;
- (b) in respect of a place,
 - (i) leave the place,
 - (ii) not enter the place,

- (iii) do specific work, including removing or altering things found in the place, and altering or locking the place to restrict or prevent entry to the place,
 - (iv) neither deal with a thing in or on the place nor dispose of a thing from the place, or deal with or dispose of the thing only in accordance with a specified procedure, and
 - (v) if the person has control of the place, assist in evacuating the place or examining persons found in the place, or taking preventive measures in respect of the place or persons found in the place;
- (c) stop operating, or not operate, a thing;
- (d) keep a thing in a specified place or in accordance with a specified procedure;
- (e) prevent persons from accessing a thing;
- (f) not dispose of, alter or destroy a thing, or dispose of, alter or destroy a thing only in accordance with a specified procedure;
- (g) provide to the health officer or a specified person information, records, samples or other matters relevant to a thing's possible infection with an infectious agent or contamination with a hazardous agent, including information respecting persons who may have been exposed to an infectious agent or hazardous agent by the thing;
- (h) wear a type of clothing or personal protective equipment, or change, remove or alter clothing or personal protective equipment, to protect the health and safety of persons;
- (i) use a type of equipment or implement a process, or remove equipment or alter equipment or processes, to protect the health and safety of persons;
- (j) provide evidence of complying with the order, including
- (i) getting a certificate of compliance from a medical practitioner, nurse practitioner or specified person, and

(ii) providing to a health officer any relevant record;

(k) take a prescribed action.

(3) If a health officer orders a thing to be destroyed, the health officer must give the person having custody or control of the thing reasonable time to request reconsideration and review of the order under sections 43 and 44 unless

(a) the person consents in writing to the destruction of the thing, or

(b) Part 5 [*Emergency Powers*] applies.

May make written agreements

38 (1) If the health officer reasonably believes that it would be sufficient for the protection of public health and, if applicable, would bring a person into compliance with this Act or the regulations made under it, or a term or condition of a licence or permit held by the person under this Act, a health officer may do one or both of the following:

(a) instead of making an order under Division 1, 3 or 4, enter into a written agreement with a person, under which the person agrees to do one or more things;

(b) order a person to do one or more things that a person has agreed under paragraph (a) to do, regardless of whether those things could otherwise have been the subject of an order under Division 1, 3 or 4.

(2) If, under the terms of an agreement under subsection (1), a health officer conducts one or more inspections, the health officer may use information resulting from the inspection as the basis of an order under this Act, but must not use the information as the basis on which to

(a) levy an administrative penalty under this Act, or

(b) charge a person with an offence under this Act.

Contents of orders

39 (3) An order may be made in respect of a class of persons.

Duty to comply with orders

42 (1) A person named or described in an order made under this Part must comply with the order.

(2) Subsection (1) applies regardless of whether the person leaves the geographic area for which the health officer who made the order is designated.

Reconsideration of orders

43 (1) A person affected by an order, or the variance of an order, may request the health officer who issued the order or made the variance to reconsider the order or variance if the person

(a) has additional relevant information that was not reasonably available to the health officer when the order was issued or varied,

(b) has a proposal that was not presented to the health officer when the order was issued or varied but, if implemented, would

(i) meet the objective of the order, and

(ii) be suitable as the basis of a written agreement under section 38 [*may make written agreements*], or

(c) requires more time to comply with the order.

(2) A request for reconsideration must be made in the form required by the health officer.

(3) After considering a request for reconsideration, a health officer may do one or more of the following:

(a) reject the request on the basis that the information submitted in support of the request

(i) is not relevant, or

(ii) was reasonably available at the time the order was issued;

(b) delay the date the order is to take effect or suspend the order, if satisfied that doing so would not be detrimental to public health;

(c) confirm, rescind or vary the order.

(4) A health officer must provide written reasons for a decision to reject the request under subsection (3) (a) or to confirm or vary the order under subsection (3) (c).

(5) Following a decision made under subsection (3) (a) or (c), no further request for reconsideration may be made.

(6) An order is not suspended during the period of reconsideration unless the health officer agrees, in writing, to suspend it.

(7) For the purposes of this section,

(a) if an order is made that affects a class of persons, a request for reconsideration may be made by one person on behalf of the class, and

(b) if multiple orders are made that affect a class of persons, or address related matters or issues, a health officer may reconsider the orders separately or together.

(8) If a health officer is unable or unavailable to reconsider an order he or she made, a similarly designated health officer may act under this section in respect of the order as if the similarly designated health officer were reconsidering an order that he or she made.

Review of orders

44 (1) A person affected by an order may request a review of the order under this section only after a reconsideration has been made under section 43 [*reconsideration of orders*].

(2) A request for a review may be made,

(a) in the case of an order made by a medical health officer, to the provincial health officer, or

(b) in the case of an order made by an environmental health officer, to a medical health officer having authority in the geographic area for which the environmental health officer is designated.

(3) If a review is requested, the review is to be based on the record.

- (4) If a review is requested, the reviewer may do one or more of the following:
- (a) delay the date the order is to take effect or suspend the order, if satisfied that doing so would not be detrimental to public health;
 - (b) confirm, vary or rescind the order;
 - (c) refer the matter back to the person who made the order, with or without directions.
- (5) A reviewer must provide written reasons for an action taken under subsection (4) (b) or (c), and a person may not request further review of an order.

Offences

- 99 (1) A person who contravenes any of the following provisions commits an offence:

...

- (k) section 42 [*failure to comply with an order of a health officer*], except in respect of an order made under section 29 (2) (e) to (g) [*orders respecting examinations, diagnostic examinations or preventive measures*];

Liquor Control and Licensing Act [SBC 2015] Chapter 19

Conduct at event site or in establishment, service area or liquor store

- 61 (2) A licensee or permittee or an employee of either must not
- (a) sell or serve liquor to an intoxicated person or a person showing signs of intoxication, or
 - (b) allow
 - (i) a person in a service area to become intoxicated,
 - (ii) an intoxicated person to enter or remain in a service area,
- (3) A licensee or permittee or an employee of either may,

- (a) if he or she believes a person is intoxicated,
 - (i) request that the person leave a service area, or
 - (ii) forbid the person from entering a service area,

RE: PHO Orders re Gatherings and Events & Food And Liquor Serving Premises

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
To: Gustafson, Reka [BCCDC] <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>, XT:Mema, Dr. Silvina HLTH:IN <Silvina.Mema@interiorhealth.ca>, Behn Smith, Daniele HLTH:EX <Daniele.BehnSmith@gov.bc.ca>, XT:HLTH Fyfe, Murray <murray.fyfe@viha.ca>, Daly, Patty [VCH] <Patricia.Daly@vch.ca>, Corneil, Trevor HLTH:EX <Trevor.Corneil@gov.bc.ca>, XT:McDonald, Shannon HLTH:IN <Shannon.McDonald@fnha.ca>, Kendall, Perry [EXT] <Pkendall43@shaw.ca>, XT:HLTH Brodtkin, Elizabeth <elizabeth.brodtkin@fraserhealth.ca>, Tyler, Ingrid Dr. HLTH:IN <ingrid.tyler@fraserhealth.ca>, XT:Kim, Jong HLTH:IN <Jong.Kim@northernhealth.ca>, XT:Lysyshyn, Mark Dr. HLTH:IN <Mark.Lysyshyn@vch.ca>, XT:Naus, Monika HLTH:IN <monika.naus@bccdc.ca>, XT:HLTH Stanwick, Richard <richard.stanwick@viha.ca>, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>, XT:Fumerton, Raina HLTH:IN <Raina.Fumerton@northernhealth.ca>, Hryciuk, Lorie HLTH:EX <Lorie.Hryciuk@gov.bc.ca>, Sidaway-Wolf, Daphne HLTH:EX <Daphne.SidawayWolf@gov.bc.ca>, XT:HLTH Kosatsky, Tom <tom.kosatsky@bccdc.ca>, XT:Henderson, Sarah ENV:IN <Sarah.Henderson@bccdc.ca>, Brocklehurst, Thomas WCB:EX <Tom.Brocklehurst@worksafebc.com>, Berglund, Jessica WCB:EX <Jessica.Berglund@worksafebc.com>, Lovelace, Mary WCB:EX <Mary.Lovelace@worksafebc.com>, Harkness, Gordon WCB:EX <Gordon.Harkness@worksafebc.com>, McCaskill, Darrin WCB:EX <Darrin.McCaskill@worksafebc.com>, XT:HLTH Taki, Richard <Richard.Taki@vch.ca>, Diplock, Cole [VIHA] <Cole.Diplock@viha.ca>, Luttrell, Gethsemane <Gethsemane.Luttrell@VIHA.CA>, Tyson, Oonagh [FH] <Oonagh.Tyson@fraserhealth.ca>, Zimmerman, Courtney <Courtney.Zimmerman@interiorhealth.ca>, Wheeler, Jennifer [NHA] <Jennifer.Wheeler@northernhealth.ca>, Rongve, Ian HLTH:EX <Ian.Rongve@gov.bc.ca>, Therrien, Darlene HLTH:EX <Darlene.Therrien@gov.bc.ca>, De Villiers, Albert <Albert.DeVilliers@interiorhealth.ca>, Gray, Andrew Dr. HLTH:IN <andrew.gray@northernhealth.ca>
Sent: September 18, 2020 12:34:46 PM PDT
Received: September 18, 2020 12:34:47 PM PDT
Attachments: PHO - CLASS Order Food and Liquor Serving Premises (COVID-19) September 18.20 final.pdf, PHO-Class Order Gatherings and Events (COVID-19) Sept 18.20 final.pdf

Attached are the final versions of the revised orders which will be posted to the PHO website – an updated Gatherings And Events order and newly titled Food and Liquor Serving Premises order (replaces the Restaurants, Coffee Shops, Cafes, Cafeterias and Licensed Premises, including Pubs, Bars, Lounges, Nightclubs and Tasting Rooms order).

The main changes are as follows:

1. All “events” are now in the Gatherings and Events order. Previously events were in both orders which was leading to uncertainty and inequitable application.
2. Nightclubs must cease operating as nightclubs. They could change their business model to operate as a restaurant, pub or bar.
3. Background music or other background sounds, such as from televisions, must be no louder than the volume of normal conversation.
4. Liquor sales for onsite consumption must cease by 10:00 pm. Off-sales could still happen.
5. Unless a full meal service is provided, premises must close by 11:00 pm and all patrons must vacate the premises. If a full meal service is provided, premises may stay open, but liquor must not be served until 11:00 am the following

day.

6. Liquor must not be consumed on premises by owners, operators or staff after 11:00 pm

7. The Gatherings and Events order does not apply to voting places.

8. Banquet halls are defined and ordered not to hold events, but voting is explicitly allowed. They could also do other things like have daycares.

9. The definition of "event" is further clarified to indicate it applies to a "trade fair, agricultural fair, seasonal fair and episodic indoor event that has as its primary purpose the sale of merchandise or services e.g. Christmas craft markets, home shows, antique fairs and the like."

10. The definition of "a place" is clarified to include "a private residence and other premises not ordinarily open to the public" now that police can enforce the event order wrt parties.

11. The requirement for both event organizer and owner to hold lists of event attendees was removed as thought to be unnecessary duplication.

12. Liquor service at events must cease at 10 pm.

13. If food or liquor serving premises hold private events like wedding receptions, the same rules that hotels and other venues must follow apply to these premises. But if it is a public event like live music performance all the extra rules e.g. no singing, dancing, no-self serve bar, must remain seated apply.

Thanks and have a great weekend!

Brian

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From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX

Sent: August 7, 2020 10:18 AM

To: 'Gustafson, Reka [BCCDC]' <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>; XT:Mema, Dr. Silvina HLTH:IN <Silvina.Mema@interiorhealth.ca>; Behn Smith, Daniele HLTH:EX <Daniele.BehnSmith@gov.bc.ca>; XT:HLTH Fyfe, Murray <murray.fyfe@viha.ca>; 'Daly, Patty [VCH]' <Patricia.Daly@vch.ca>; Corneil, Trevor HLTH:EX <Trevor.Corneil@gov.bc.ca>; XT:McDonald, Shannon HLTH:IN <Shannon.McDonald@fnha.ca>; 'Kendall, Perry [EXT]' <Pkendall43@shaw.ca>; Elizabeth Brodtkin (elizabeth.brodtkin@fraserhealth.ca) <elizabeth.brodtkin@fraserhealth.ca>; XT:Larder, Andrew Fraser Health Authority EAO:IN <andrew.larder@fraserhealth.ca>; XT:HLTH Pollock, Sue <sue.pollock@interiorhealth.ca>; XT:Lysyshyn, Mark Dr. HLTH:IN <Mark.Lysyshyn@vch.ca>; XT:Naus, Monika HLTH:IN <monika.naus@bccdc.ca>; XT:HLTH Stanwick, Richard <richard.stanwick@viha.ca>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>; Tyler, Ingrid Dr. HLTH:IN <ingrid.tyler@fraserhealth.ca>; XT:Kim, Jong HLTH:IN <jong.kim@northernhealth.ca>; Fumerton, Raina <Raina.Fumerton@northernhealth.ca>; Hryciuk, Lorie <Lorie.Hryciuk@gov.bc.ca>; Lambert, Tim HLTH:EX <Tim.Lambert@gov.bc.ca>; Sidaway-Wolf, Daphne HLTH:EX <Daphne.SidawayWolf@gov.bc.ca>; XT:HLTH Kosatsky, Tom <tom.kosatsky@bccdc.ca>; XT:Henderson, Sarah ENV:IN <Sarah.Henderson@bccdc.ca>; Brocklehurst, Thomas WCB:EX <Tom.Brocklehurst@worksafebc.com>; Jessica Berglund <Jessica.Berglund@worksafebc.com>; Lovelace, Mary WCB:EX <Mary.Lovelace@worksafebc.com>; 'Harkness, Gordon' <Gordon.Harkness@worksafebc.com>; XT:HLTH Taki, Richard <Richard.Taki@vch.ca>; 'Diplock, Cole

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Subject: PHO Order re Gatherings and Events

FYI we have made minor amendments to this order which will be posted soon. Changes are:

- Further to amending the restaurants and nightclubs order to allow live performers to have a barrier OR 3 metre distance from the audience, this order was amended for consistency.
- Made explicit that this order applies to meetings or conferences held in hotels or anywhere else.
- Added "exhibition and fair" to the definition of event.
- Expanded definition of "organizer" to include "the person who acts as host at an event" to answer the questions from wedding planner's and others who might hire a person to organize an event.
- Clarified that the 50 person limit does not include staff.

Have a great summery weekend!

Brian

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From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX

Sent: July 31, 2020 5:38 PM

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Subject: PHO Order re Restaurants, Pubs, Bars and Nightclubs

The July 23 PHO order has been amended and the attached order is now in effect. It should be posted to the website sometime this weekend.

We have fine tuned this order to address a few issues that came up in relation to the July 23 order:

- Greater clarity on which settings are covered by this order
- Meetings in hotels and conferences were inadvertently captured by the previous order, so have been excluded from this order (but are still covered by the Gatherings and Events PHO order)
- Cafeterias such as in grocery stores, private clubs like Legions, or premises with a manufacturer's licence e.g. tasting lounges can serve alcohol to customers from a counter and are excluded from requirements to have to assigned seating, keep patrons seated, and have staff to ensure people stay seated.
- Jam sessions and open mic events are not allowed due to concerns about these events that encourage audience participation
- Performers must be separated from the audience by barriers or 3 metres distance (not both)
- Events can now happen between 530 am to 11 pm, so morning events can happen and premises can hold 4 events per day. However there must be an hour for emptying and cleaning between events, to avoid back to back events and line ups in the evening.

Have a great Beat Covid-19 long weekend remaining seated in small groups, well distanced from others at your favourite place!

Brian

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ORDER OF THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH OFFICER
(Pursuant to Sections 30, 31, 32, and 39 (3) *Public Health Act*, S.B.C. 2008)

FOOD AND LIQUOR SERVING PREMISES

The *Public Health Act* is at:

<http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/content/complete/statreg/08028/?xsl=/templates/browse.xsl>
(excerpts enclosed)

TO: OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF RESTAURANTS, COFFEE SHOPS, CAFES, CAFETERIAS AND FOOD PRIMARY AND LIQUOR PRIMARY ESTABLISHMENTS, INCLUDING PUBS, BARS, LOUNGES AND NIGHTCLUBS, LIQUOR MANUFACTURING FACILITIES THAT HAVE TASTING ROOMS, LOUNGES AND PRIVATE CLUBS

WHEREAS:

- A. On March 17, 2020 I provided notice under section 52 (2) of the *Public Health Act* that the transmission of the infectious agent SARS-CoV-2, which has caused cases and outbreaks of a serious communicable disease known as COVID-19 among the population of the Province of British Columbia, constitutes a regional event as defined in section 51 of the *Public Health Act*;
- B. A person infected with SARS-CoV-2 can infect other people with whom the infected person is in contact;
- C. The gathering of people in close contact with one another can promote the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and increase the number of people who develop COVID-19 and become seriously ill; in particular, in recent months, social mingling over the evening hours coupled with the consumption of alcohol which increases risky behavior, and/or the presence of loud background sound which causes people to move closer together to be heard or to speak more forcefully, is associated with significant increases in the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and increases in the number of people who develop COVID-19 and become seriously ill;
- D. With schools and post-secondary institutions opening and the change of seasons bringing cooler weather, people will be interacting more and spending more time indoors which will increase the risk of the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in the population thereby increasing the number of people who develop COVID-19 and become seriously ill;
- E. For certainty, this Order is directed at restaurants, coffee shops, cafes, cafeterias and food primary and liquor primary establishments, including pubs, bars, lounges and nightclubs, manufacturing facilities that have tasting rooms and private clubs. It is not directed at hospitals, licensed care facilities, assisted living residences, independent living facilities, correctional

Ministry of Health

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facilities, industrial camps, cafeterias for boarders or cafeterias for residents attending educational institutions or other places where food or liquor is served primarily to persons who are residents or the like rather than to the general public;

F. For further certainty, this Order does not apply to events as defined in my *Gatherings and Events* Order, or to meetings or conferences held in hotels or anywhere else;

G. You belong to the class of persons to whom this notice is addressed;

H. I have reason to believe and do believe that

- a. the risk of an outbreak of COVID-19 among the public constitutes a health hazard under the *Public Health Act*;
- b. because the risk of outbreaks arising from people gathering to eat or drink in restaurants, coffee shops, cafes, cafeterias and food primary and liquor primary establishments, including pubs, bars, lounges and nightclubs, manufacturing facilities that have tasting rooms and private clubs extends beyond the authority of one or more medical health officers, and coordinated action is needed to protect the public from contracting COVID-19, it is in the public interest for me to exercise the powers in sections 30, 31, 32 and 39(3) of the *Public Health Act* **TO ORDER** as follows:

THIS ORDER REPEALS AND REPLACES MY ORDER MADE ON JULY 31, 2020 AND CONFIRMS MY ORAL ORDER OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 WITH RESPECT TO NIGHTCLUBS, LIQUOR SALES AND SOUND

Definitions in this Order:

“**physical barrier**” means a barrier which is designed, installed and maintained in accordance with WorksafeBC guidelines;

“**premises**” includes both inside and outside areas.

A. OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF LIQUOR PRIMARIES OPERATING AS NIGHTCLUBS

You must cease operating as a nightclub.

B. OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF RESTAURANTS, COFFEE SHOPS, CAFES, CAFETERIAS AND FOOD PRIMARY AND LIQUOR PRIMARY ESTABLISHMENTS, INCLUDING PUBS, BARS, LOUNGES, LIQUOR MANUFACTURING FACILITIES THAT HAVE TASTING ROOMS AND PRIVATE CLUBS (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS “PREMISES”)

You may provide food or drink services, subject to the conditions which follow.

1. Patrons must be able to maintain a distance of two metres from other patrons unless they are separated by physical barriers.

2. If patrons remain on the premises, other than tasting rooms with a liquor manufacturer licence, after being served or serving themselves, there must be sufficient seating for them, whether at tables, booths or counters, and patrons must be seated.
3. In licensed premises, other than cafeterias, private clubs or tasting rooms with a liquor manufacturer licence, patrons must be assigned to a table, booth or counter and shown to their seats.
4. Liquor may only be served to patrons who are seated, other than in cafeterias, private clubs or tasting rooms with a liquor manufacturer licence.
5. Patrons must remain seated in all premises, other than cafeterias, private clubs or tasting rooms with a liquor manufacturer's licence, except to use a self-serve food or non-alcoholic drink station, use washroom facilities or leave the premises.
6. There must be a sufficient number of staff at premises, other than cafeterias, private clubs or tasting rooms with a liquor manufacturer's licence, to ensure that patrons remain seated.
7. There must be a sufficient number of staff at premises, other than cafeterias, private clubs or tasting rooms with a liquor manufacturer's licence, to ensure that patrons do not congregate in areas of the premises.
8. Patrons who are not in the same party must be seated two metres apart from one another, unless they are separated by a physical barrier.
9. There must be no more than six patrons seated at a table or booth, even if they belong to the same party.
10. There must be a distance of two metres between the backs of the seats of patrons seated at adjacent tables or booths, even if members of the same party are seated at adjacent tables or booths, unless the adjacent tables or booths are separated by physical barriers.
11. There must be two metres between patrons seated at a counter, unless the patrons are in the same party or they are separated by physical barriers.
12. If a party of patrons is seated at a counter, there must be no more than six members of the party seated less than two metres apart from one another, unless they are separated by a physical barrier from other members of the party who are seated adjacent to them at the counter.
13. If there is a self-serve food or non-alcoholic drink station on the premises,
 - a. hand washing facilities or alcohol-based sanitizers must be within easy reach of the station;
 - b. signs reminding patrons to wash or sanitize their hands before touching self-serve food, drink or other items, and to maintain a two metre distance from other patrons, must be posted at the self-serve station; and
 - c. high touch surfaces at the station, and utensils that are used for self-serve, must be frequently cleaned and sanitized.

14. You must determine the maximum number of patrons who can be accommodated safely on your premises, taking into consideration the requirements set out in the sections above and must document this maximum number in your safety plan.
15. You must monitor the number of patrons present on your premises and ensure that the number present does not exceed the maximum number in your safety plan.
16. You must take steps to prevent the congregation of patrons outside your premises, such as by taking reservations and requesting patrons to remain in their cars or elsewhere until notified by telephone or an App that there is seating available for them on the premises.
17. You must assess your premises for places where patrons may congregate and take steps to avoid congregation.
18. You must use physical devices, install markers or use other methods to guide and assist patrons in maintaining a distance of two metres from other patrons if they are not seated.
19. You must monitor your premises and remind patrons to maintain a distance of two metres from one another.
20. If there are physical barriers between tables or booths or seats at a counter, the tops and bottoms of the physical barriers must be positioned so that the physical barriers block the transmission of droplets produced by breathing, talking, coughing or sneezing between patrons who are seated at adjacent tables, booths or seats at a counter.
21. Dance floors must be closed with physical barriers or occupied with tables.
22. Patrons must not sing, engage in Karaoke or dance on the premises.
23. Jam and open mic sessions must not be held on premises.
24. Background music and any other background sounds, such as from televisions or other electronic sound producing devices, must be no louder than the volume of normal conversation.
25. If background music is provided by a live performer or performers or a disc jockey, a physical barrier must be installed between the performers or disc jockey and the patrons which blocks the transmission of droplets produced by performers or disc jockey, or there must be at least a three metre separation between performers and patrons.
26. Liquor sales for onsite consumption must cease by 10:00 pm.
27. You must meet your obligations under sections 61 (2) and 61 (3) of the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* and directives and guidance provided by the Liquor and Cannabis Licensing Branch in order to ensure that patrons do not over order, over consume or binge drink (see <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/business/liquor-regulation-licensing?keyword=liquor&keyword=control&keyword=licensing&keyword=branch>).

28. Unless a full meal service is provided, premises must close by 11:00 pm and all patrons must vacate the premises. If a full meal service is provided, premises may stay open, but liquor must not be served until 11:00 am the following day.
29. Liquor must not be consumed on premises by owners, operators or staff after 11:00 pm.
30. If, in the ordinary course of business, you collect information from patrons for the purpose of making reservations or seating patrons,
 - a. you must collect the first and last name and telephone number, or email address, of at least one member of every party of patrons, and you may collect this information from other members of a party or from other patrons who wish to provide it; and
 - b. you must retain this information for thirty days, in case there is a need for contact tracing on the part of the medical health officer, in which case you must provide the information to the medical health officer
31. In addition to the above, the *Gatherings and Events* Order applies to the holding of events on your premises.

This Order does not have an expiration date.

You are required under section 42 of the *Public Health Act* to comply with this Order. Failure to comply with this Order is an offence under section 99 (1) (k) of the *Public Health Act*.

Under section 43 of the *Public Health Act*, you may request me to reconsider this Order if you:

1. Have additional relevant information that was not reasonably available to me when this Order was issued,
2. Have a proposal that was not presented to me when this Order was issued but, if implemented, would
 - (a) meet the objective of the order, and
 - (b) be suitable as the basis of a written agreement under section 38 [may make written agreements]
3. Require more time to comply with the order.

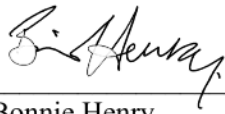
Under section 43 (6) an order is not suspended during the period of reconsideration unless the health officer agrees, in writing, to suspend it.

If you fail to comply with this Order, I have the authority to take enforcement action against you under Part 4, Division 6 of the *Public Health Act*.

You may contact me at:

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4th Floor, 1515 Blanshard Street
P O Box 9648 STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4
Fax: (250) 952-1570
Email: ProvHlthOffice@gov.bc.ca

DATED THIS: 18th day of September 2020.

SIGNED: 
Bonnie Henry
MD, MPH, FRCPC
Provincial Health Officer

Delivery By: Posting on the BC Government website, posting on the BC Centre for Disease Control website and by email.

Enclosure: Excerpts of *Public Health Act*

ENCLOSURE**Excerpts of the *PUBLIC HEALTH ACT*****Public Health Act [SBC 2008] c. 28****Definitions**

1 In this Act:

"health hazard" means

- (a) a condition, a thing or an activity that
 - (i) endangers, or is likely to endanger, public health, or
 - (ii) interferes, or is likely to interfere, with the suppression of infectious agents or hazardous agents, or
- (b) a prescribed condition, thing or activity, including a prescribed condition, thing or activity that
 - (i) is associated with injury or illness, or
 - (ii) fails to meet a prescribed standard in relation to health, injury or illness;

When orders respecting health hazards and contraventions may be made

30 (1) A health officer may issue an order under this Division only if the health officer reasonably believes that

- (a) a health hazard exists,
- (b) a condition, a thing or an activity presents a significant risk of causing a health hazard,
- (c) a person has contravened a provision of the Act or a regulation made under it, or
- (d) a person has contravened a term or condition of a licence or permit held by the person under this Act.

(2) For greater certainty, subsection (1) (a) to (c) applies even if the person subject to the order is complying with all terms and conditions of a licence, a permit, an approval or another authorization issued under this or any other enactment.

General powers respecting health hazards and contraventions

31 (1) If the circumstances described in section 30 [*when orders respecting health hazards and contraventions may be made*] apply, a health officer may order a person to do anything that the health officer reasonably believes is necessary for any of the following purposes:

- (a) to determine whether a health hazard exists;
- (b) to prevent or stop a health hazard, or mitigate the harm or prevent further harm from a health hazard;

- (c) to bring the person into compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it;
- (d) to bring the person into compliance with a term or condition of a licence or permit held by that person under this Act.

(2) A health officer may issue an order under subsection (1) to any of the following persons:

- (a) a person whose action or omission
 - (i) is causing or has caused a health hazard, or
 - (ii) is not in compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it, or a term or condition of the person's licence or permit;
- (b) a person who has custody or control of a thing, or control of a condition, that
 - (i) is a health hazard or is causing or has caused a health hazard, or
 - (ii) is not in compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it, or a term or condition of the person's licence or permit;
- (c) the owner or occupier of a place where
 - (i) a health hazard is located, or
 - (ii) an activity is occurring that is not in compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it, or a term or condition of the licence or permit of the person doing the activity.

Specific powers respecting health hazards and contraventions

32 (1) An order may be made under this section only

- (a) if the circumstances described in section 30 [*when orders respecting health hazards and contraventions may be made*] apply, and
- (b) for the purposes set out in section 31 (1) [*general powers respecting health hazards and contraventions*].

(2) Without limiting section 31, a health officer may order a person to do one or more of the following:

- (a) have a thing examined, disinfected, decontaminated, altered or destroyed, including
 - (i) by a specified person, or under the supervision or instructions of a specified person,
 - (ii) moving the thing to a specified place, and
 - (iii) taking samples of the thing, or permitting samples of the thing to be taken;
- (b) in respect of a place,
 - (i) leave the place,
 - (ii) not enter the place,
 - (iii) do specific work, including removing or altering things found in the place, and altering or locking the place to restrict or prevent entry to the place,

- (iv) neither deal with a thing in or on the place nor dispose of a thing from the place, or deal with or dispose of the thing only in accordance with a specified procedure, and
 - (v) if the person has control of the place, assist in evacuating the place or examining persons found in the place, or taking preventive measures in respect of the place or persons found in the place;
 - (c) stop operating, or not operate, a thing;
 - (d) keep a thing in a specified place or in accordance with a specified procedure;
 - (e) prevent persons from accessing a thing;
 - (f) not dispose of, alter or destroy a thing, or dispose of, alter or destroy a thing only in accordance with a specified procedure;
 - (g) provide to the health officer or a specified person information, records, samples or other matters relevant to a thing's possible infection with an infectious agent or contamination with a hazardous agent, including information respecting persons who may have been exposed to an infectious agent or hazardous agent by the thing;
 - (h) wear a type of clothing or personal protective equipment, or change, remove or alter clothing or personal protective equipment, to protect the health and safety of persons;
 - (i) use a type of equipment or implement a process, or remove equipment or alter equipment or processes, to protect the health and safety of persons;
 - (j) provide evidence of complying with the order, including
 - (i) getting a certificate of compliance from a medical practitioner, nurse practitioner or specified person, and
 - (ii) providing to a health officer any relevant record;
 - (k) take a prescribed action.
- (3) If a health officer orders a thing to be destroyed, the health officer must give the person having custody or control of the thing reasonable time to request reconsideration and review of the order under sections 43 and 44 unless
- (a) the person consents in writing to the destruction of the thing, or
 - (b) Part 5 [*Emergency Powers*] applies.

May make written agreements

38 (1) If the health officer reasonably believes that it would be sufficient for the protection of public health and, if applicable, would bring a person into compliance with this Act or the regulations made under it, or a term or condition of a licence or permit held by the person under this Act, a health officer may do one or both of the following:

- (a) instead of making an order under Division 1, 3 or 4, enter into a written agreement with a person, under which the person agrees to do one or more things;
- (b) order a person to do one or more things that a person has agreed under paragraph (a) to do, regardless of whether those things could otherwise have been the subject of an order under Division 1, 3 or 4.

(2) If, under the terms of an agreement under subsection (1), a health officer conducts one or more inspections, the health officer may use information resulting from the inspection as the basis of an order under this Act, but must not use the information as the basis on which to

- (a) levy an administrative penalty under this Act, or
- (b) charge a person with an offence under this Act.

Contents of orders

39 (3) An order may be made in respect of a class of persons.

Duty to comply with orders

42 (1) A person named or described in an order made under this Part must comply with the order.

(2) Subsection (1) applies regardless of whether the person leaves the geographic area for which the health officer who made the order is designated.

Reconsideration of orders

43 (1) A person affected by an order, or the variance of an order, may request the health officer who issued the order or made the variance to reconsider the order or variance if the person

- (a) has additional relevant information that was not reasonably available to the health officer when the order was issued or varied,
- (b) has a proposal that was not presented to the health officer when the order was issued or varied but, if implemented, would
 - (i) meet the objective of the order, and
 - (ii) be suitable as the basis of a written agreement under section 38 [*may make written agreements*], or
- (c) requires more time to comply with the order.

(2) A request for reconsideration must be made in the form required by the health officer.

(3) After considering a request for reconsideration, a health officer may do one or more of the following:

- (a) reject the request on the basis that the information submitted in support of the request
 - (i) is not relevant, or
 - (ii) was reasonably available at the time the order was issued;
- (b) delay the date the order is to take effect or suspend the order, if satisfied that doing so would not be detrimental to public health;
- (c) confirm, rescind or vary the order.

(4) A health officer must provide written reasons for a decision to reject the request under subsection (3) (a) or to confirm or vary the order under subsection (3) (c).

(5) Following a decision made under subsection (3) (a) or (c), no further request for reconsideration may be made.

(6) An order is not suspended during the period of reconsideration unless the health officer agrees, in writing, to suspend it.

(7) For the purposes of this section,

- (a) if an order is made that affects a class of persons, a request for reconsideration may be made by one person on behalf of the class, and
- (b) if multiple orders are made that affect a class of persons, or address related matters or issues, a health officer may reconsider the orders separately or together.

(8) If a health officer is unable or unavailable to reconsider an order he or she made, a similarly designated health officer may act under this section in respect of the order as if the similarly designated health officer were reconsidering an order that he or she made.

99 (1) A person who contravenes any of the following provisions commits an offence:

...

- (k) section 42 [*failure to comply with an order of a health officer*], except in respect of an order made under section 29 (2) (e) to (g) [*orders respecting examinations, diagnostic examinations or preventive measures*];

Liquor Control and Licensing Act [SBC 2015] Chapter 19

Conduct at event site or in establishment, service area or liquor store

61 (2) A licensee or permittee or an employee of either must not

- (a) sell or serve liquor to an intoxicated person or a person showing signs of intoxication, or
- (b) allow
 - (i) a person in a service area to become intoxicated,
 - (ii) an intoxicated person to enter or remain in a service area,

(3) A licensee or permittee or an employee of either may,

- (a) if he or she believes a person is intoxicated,
 - (i) request that the person leave a service area, or
 - (ii) forbid the person from entering a service area, and



ORDER OF THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH OFFICER

GATHERINGS AND EVENTS

(Pursuant to Sections 30, 31, 32 and 39 (3) *Public Health Act*, S.B.C. 2008)

The *Public Health Act* is at:

<http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/content/complete/statreg/08028/?xsl=/templates/browse.xsl>
(excerpts enclosed)

TO: OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF PLACES AND PERSONS WHO ORGANIZE OR ATTEND EVENTS AT PREMISES SUBJECT TO THE FOOD AND LIQUOR SERVING PREMISES ORDER, VACATION ACCOMODATION OR OTHER PLACES

WHEREAS:

1. On March 17, 2020 I provided notice under section 52 (2) of the *Public Health Act* that the transmission of the infectious agent SARS-CoV-2, which has caused cases and outbreaks of a serious communicable disease known as COVID-19 among the population of the Province of British Columbia, constitutes a regional event as defined in section 51 of the *Public Health Act*;
2. The SARS-CoV-2 virus, an infectious agent, can cause outbreaks of COVID-19;
3. A person infected with SARS-CoV-2 can infect other people with whom the infected person is in direct contact, through droplets in the air, or from fluid containing SARS-CoV-2 left on surfaces;
4. The gathering of people in close contact with one another can promote the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and increase the number of people who develop COVID-19 and become seriously ill; in particular, in recent months, social mingling over the evening hours coupled with the consumption of alcohol which increases risky behavior, and/or the presence of loud background sound which causes people to move closer together to be heard or to speak more forcefully, is associated with significant increases in the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and increases in the number of people who develop COVID-19 and become seriously ill;

5. With schools and post-secondary institutions opening and the change of seasons bringing cooler weather, people will be interacting more and spending more time indoors which will increase the risk of the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in the population thereby increasing the number of people who develop COVID-19 and become seriously ill;
6. For certainty, this Order does not apply to workers at a worksite when engaged in their work activities, workers living at a work camp; students, teachers or instructors at a school or post-secondary educational institution when engaged in educational activities; customers in a mall or retail establishment when engaged in shopping activities or seeking services; individuals attending an episodic vending market; individuals in a recreation centre or campground or any other place when not attending an event; or the use of any place for municipal, provincial or federal election purposes.
7. For further certainty, this Order applies to meetings or conferences held in hotels or anywhere else.
8. I have reason to believe and do believe that
 - (i) the risk of an outbreak of COVID-19 among the public constitutes a health hazard under the *Public Health Act*;
 - (ii) because the risk of outbreaks resulting from the gathering of people and attendance at events extends beyond the authority of one or more medical health officers and coordinated action is needed to protect the public from contracting COVID-19, it is in the public interest for me to exercise the powers in sections 30, 31, 32 and 39 (3) of the *Public Health Act* **TO ORDER** as follows:

THIS ORDER REPEALS AND REPLACES MY ORDER OF AUGUST 7, 2020 WITH RESPECT TO *GATHERINGS AND EVENTS* AND CONFIRMS MY ORAL ORDER OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 WITH RESPECT TO BANQUET HALLS AND LIQUOR SALES

Definitions in this Order:

“banquet hall” means a stand-alone premises built for the purpose of holding large social events, including banquets, generally involving many hundreds of people. It does not include the premises associated with an hotel, house of worship, recreation centre, sports organization or other non- profit organization with a community, educational, historical, sports or similar purpose, or owned or operated or otherwise controlled by a government;

“event” refers to anything which gathers people together whether on a one-time, regular or irregular basis, including a party, worship service, ceremony or celebration of any type, reception, wedding, funeral, celebration of life, musical, theatrical or dance entertainment or performance, live band performance, disc jockey performance, strip dancing, comedic act, art show, magic show, puppet show, fashion show, book signing, reading, recitation, display, movie, film; meeting, conference, lecture, talk, educational presentation (except in a school or post-secondary educational institution); auction, fund raising benefit, contest, quiz, game, rally, festival, presentation, demonstration, sporting or other physical activity, exhibition and fair, including a trade fair, agricultural fair, seasonal fair and episodic indoor event that has as its primary purpose the sale of merchandise or services e.g. Christmas craft markets, home shows, antique fairs and the like;

“organizer” means the person responsible for organizing an event and the person who acts as host at an event;

“owner” includes an occupier or operator or person otherwise responsible for a place;

“patron” means an individual who attends an event but does not include staff;

“physical barrier” means a barrier which is designed, installed and maintained in accordance with WorksafeBC guidelines;

“a place” includes a private residence and other premises not ordinarily open to the public and inside or outside areas, but does not include vacation accommodation;

“vacation accommodation ” means a house, townhouse, cottage, cabin, apartment, condominium, mobile home, recreational vehicle, hotel suite, tent, yurt, houseboat or any other type of living accommodation and associated deck, garden or yard, when used for vacation purposes by the owner, tenant, guest or any other person;

A. BANQUET HALLS:

1. The holding of an event in a banquet hall is prohibited.
2. For certainty, this does not include the use of banquet halls for the purpose of holding municipal, provincial or federal elections.

B. VACATION ACCOMODATION

1. A maximum of five individuals may be present in vacation accommodation, in addition to the occupants.

2. The owner of vacation accommodation must require any tenant, guest or other person using or occupying the vacation accommodation to comply with the requirement in section 1.

C. PLACES OTHER THAN BANQUET HALLS

1. Subject to section 7, the gathering of more than fifty patrons at a place for the purpose of an event is prohibited.
2. Up to fifty patrons may attend an event in a place if the following conditions are met:
 - a. there is an organizer of the event;
 - b. access to the event is controlled;
 - c. the number of patrons is closely monitored;
 - d. there is sufficient space available to permit the patrons to maintain a distance of two metres from one another;
 - e. the patrons maintain a distance of two metres from one another when standing or sitting, unless they belong to the same party;
 - f. measures are put in place to prevent the congregation of patrons outside the place, such as by taking reservations and requesting patrons to remain in their cars or elsewhere until notified by telephone or an App that there is room for them;
 - g. the place is assessed for areas where patrons may congregate, and measures are put in place to avoid congregation;
 - h. physical devices, markers or other methods are used to guide and assist patrons in maintaining a distance of two metres from other patrons, if they are not seated;
 - i. if there are tables provided for the use of patrons, no more than six patrons sit at a table, even if they belong to the same party, and there are at least two metres between the backs of the chairs at one table and the backs of the chairs at another table, unless the chairs are separated by a physical barrier;
 - j. if live performance is provided, or there is a presenter or a presider, a physical barrier must be installed between the performer, presenter or presider and the patrons which blocks the transmission of droplets from the performer, presenter or presider, or there must be at least a three metre separation between the performer, presenter or the presider and the patrons;
 - k. If there is a self-serve food or drink station,

- i. hand washing facilities or alcohol-based sanitizers are within easy reach of the station;
 - ii. signs reminding patrons to wash or sanitize their hands before touching self-serve food, drink or other items, and to maintain a two metre distance from other patrons, are posted at the self-serve station; and
 - iii. high touch surfaces at the station, and utensils that are used for self-serve, are frequently cleaned and sanitized.
- l. hand sanitation supplies are readily available to patrons;
- m. washroom facilities with running water, soap and a sanitary means for drying hands for hand washing purposes, or hand sanitation supplies, are available.
- n. If an event is taking place in an area of the premises as defined in the *Food And Liquor Serving Premises* which is completely separated from the rest of the premises, and which has its own entrance and washrooms, there may be additional patrons present in other parts of the premises who are not attending the event, if the total number of patrons present on the premises does not exceed the maximum number of patrons permitted on the premises under the safety plan. Patrons attending an event in an area of a premises must not have contact with patrons on the premises who are not attending the event.
- o. If there are one or more premises in a building, there may be an event in each of the premises as long as
 - i. patrons attending an event do not have contact with patrons attending another event or with other persons in the building;
 - ii. there is a separate entrance to each of the premises in which an event is being held; and
 - iii. there are separate washrooms for each of the premises.
- p. During an event, patrons who leave the place in which an event is being held, must not be replaced by other patrons.
- q. There must be at least one hour between events during which there are no patrons present on the place or the area of the place to permit cleaning and sanitizing, and the place or area of the place must be cleaned and sanitized once no patrons are present and before patrons are permitted to enter the place or area of the place for another event.

3. Liquor service must stop at 10:00 pm;
4. The obligations under sections 61 (2) and 61 (3) of the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act* and directives and guidance provided by the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch to must be complied with in order to ensure that patrons do not over order, overconsume or binge drink. (see <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/business/liquor-regulation-licensing?keyword=liquor&keyword=control&keyword=licensing&keyword=branch>)
5. The organizer must ensure that the conditions, requirements and obligations in section 1, 2, 3 and 4 are met.
6. The organizer must
 - a. collect the first and last names and telephone number, or email address, of every patron who attends an event or of every driver of a vehicle present at a drive-in event; and
 - b. retain this information for thirty days, in case there is a need for contact tracing on the part of the medical health officer, in which case the information must be provided to the medical health officer.
7. If the event is a drive in, the organizer may permit more than fifty patrons to be present, if the following conditions, as well as the conditions in section 6, are met:
 - a. patrons only attend in a vehicle;
 - b. no more than fifty vehicles are present at the drive in;
 - c. patrons are informed that they must stay in their vehicles except to use washroom facilities, and when outside their vehicles they must maintain a distance of two metres from other patrons, and this is monitored;
 - d. no food or drink is sold.
8. If the organizer is not the owner or operator, the owner or operator must satisfy themselves that the organizer is aware of the requirements in sections 1 to 6 or, if applicable, section 7, and has the capacity to fulfill them.

D. PLACES TO WHICH THE *FOOD AND LIQUOR SERVING PREMISES* ORDER APPLIES

1. If the event is private, the provisions of Part C apply.

2. If the event is open to the public:
 - a. the provisions in Part B, sections 1 to 27 and 29 of the *Food and Liquor Serving Premises* order apply; and
 - b. the owner must collect the first and last names and telephone number, or email address, of every patron who attends; and
 - c. retain this information for thirty days, in case there is a need for contact tracing on the part of the medical health officer, in which case the information must be provided to the medical health officer.

This Order does not have an expiration date.

You are required under section 42 of the *Public Health Act* to comply with this Order. Failure to comply with this Order is an offence under section 99 (1) (k) of the *Public Health Act*.

Under section 43 of the *Public Health Act*, you may request me to reconsider this Order if you:

1. Have additional relevant information that was not reasonably available to me when this Order was issued,
2. Have a proposal that was not presented to me when this Order was issued but, if implemented, would
 - (a) meet the objective of the order, and
 - (b) be suitable as the basis of a written agreement under section 38 [may make written agreements]
3. Require more time to comply with the order.

Under section 43 (6) an Order is not suspended during the period of reconsideration unless the health officer agrees, in writing, to suspend it.

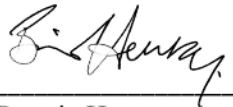
If you fail to comply with this Order, I have the authority to take enforcement action against you under Part 4, Division 6 of the *Public Health Act*.

You may contact me at:

Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer
4th Floor, 1515 Blanshard Street
PO Box 9648 STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4
Fax: (250) 952-1570
Email: ProvHlthOffice@gov.bc.ca

DATED THIS: 18th day of September 2020.

SIGNED:



Bonnie Henry
MD, MPH, FRCPC
Provincial Health Officer

DELIVERY BY: Posting to the BC Government website, the BC Centre for Disease Control website and by email.

Enclosure: Excerpts of *Public Health Act*

ENCLOSURE

Excerpts of the *PUBLIC HEALTH ACT*

Public Health Act [SBC 2008] c. 28

Definitions

1 In this Act:

"health hazard" means

- (a) a condition, a thing or an activity that
 - (i) endangers, or is likely to endanger, public health, or
 - (ii) interferes, or is likely to interfere, with the suppression of infectious agents or hazardous agents, or
- (b) a prescribed condition, thing or activity, including a prescribed condition, thing or activity that
 - (i) is associated with injury or illness, or
 - (ii) fails to meet a prescribed standard in relation to health, injury or illness;

When orders respecting health hazards and contraventions may be made

30 (1) A health officer may issue an order under this Division only if the health officer reasonably believes that

- (a) a health hazard exists,
- (b) a condition, a thing or an activity presents a significant risk of causing a health hazard,
- (c) a person has contravened a provision of the Act or a regulation made under it, or

(d) a person has contravened a term or condition of a licence or permit held by the person under this Act.

(2) For greater certainty, subsection (1) (a) to (c) applies even if the person subject to the order is complying with all terms and conditions of a licence, a permit, an approval or another authorization issued under this or any other enactment.

General powers respecting health hazards and contraventions

31 (1) If the circumstances described in section 30 [*when orders respecting health hazards and contraventions may be made*] apply, a health officer may order a person to do anything that the health officer reasonably believes is necessary for any of the following purposes:

- (a) to determine whether a health hazard exists;
- (b) to prevent or stop a health hazard, or mitigate the harm or prevent further harm from a health hazard;
- (c) to bring the person into compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it;
- (d) to bring the person into compliance with a term or condition of a licence or permit held by that person under this Act.

(2) A health officer may issue an order under subsection (1) to any of the following persons:

- (a) a person whose action or omission
 - (i) is causing or has caused a health hazard, or
 - (ii) is not in compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it, or a term or condition of the person's licence or permit;
- (b) a person who has custody or control of a thing, or control of a condition, that
 - (i) is a health hazard or is causing or has caused a health hazard, or

- (ii) is not in compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it, or a term or condition of the person's licence or permit;
- (c) the owner or occupier of a place where
 - (i) a health hazard is located, or
 - (ii) an activity is occurring that is not in compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it, or a term or condition of the licence or permit of the person doing the activity.

Specific powers respecting health hazards and contraventions

32 (1) An order may be made under this section only

- (a) if the circumstances described in section 30 [*when orders respecting health hazards and contraventions may be made*] apply, and
- (b) for the purposes set out in section 31 (1) [*general powers respecting health hazards and contraventions*].

(2) Without limiting section 31, a health officer may order a person to do one or more of the following:

- (a) have a thing examined, disinfected, decontaminated, altered or destroyed, including
 - (i) by a specified person, or under the supervision or instructions of a specified person,
 - (ii) moving the thing to a specified place, and
 - (iii) taking samples of the thing, or permitting samples of the thing to be taken;
- (b) in respect of a place,
 - (i) leave the place,
 - (ii) not enter the place,

- (iii) do specific work, including removing or altering things found in the place, and altering or locking the place to restrict or prevent entry to the place,
 - (iv) neither deal with a thing in or on the place nor dispose of a thing from the place, or deal with or dispose of the thing only in accordance with a specified procedure, and
 - (v) if the person has control of the place, assist in evacuating the place or examining persons found in the place, or taking preventive measures in respect of the place or persons found in the place;
- (c) stop operating, or not operate, a thing;
- (d) keep a thing in a specified place or in accordance with a specified procedure;
- (e) prevent persons from accessing a thing;
- (f) not dispose of, alter or destroy a thing, or dispose of, alter or destroy a thing only in accordance with a specified procedure;
- (g) provide to the health officer or a specified person information, records, samples or other matters relevant to a thing's possible infection with an infectious agent or contamination with a hazardous agent, including information respecting persons who may have been exposed to an infectious agent or hazardous agent by the thing;
- (h) wear a type of clothing or personal protective equipment, or change, remove or alter clothing or personal protective equipment, to protect the health and safety of persons;
- (i) use a type of equipment or implement a process, or remove equipment or alter equipment or processes, to protect the health and safety of persons;
- (j) provide evidence of complying with the order, including

(i) getting a certificate of compliance from a medical practitioner, nurse practitioner or specified person, and

(ii) providing to a health officer any relevant record;

(k) take a prescribed action.

(3) If a health officer orders a thing to be destroyed, the health officer must give the person having custody or control of the thing reasonable time to request reconsideration and review of the order under sections 43 and 44 unless

(a) the person consents in writing to the destruction of the thing, or

(b) Part 5 [*Emergency Powers*] applies.

May make written agreements

38 (1) If the health officer reasonably believes that it would be sufficient for the protection of public health and, if applicable, would bring a person into compliance with this Act or the regulations made under it, or a term or condition of a licence or permit held by the person under this Act, a health officer may do one or both of the following:

(a) instead of making an order under Division 1, 3 or 4, enter into a written agreement with a person, under which the person agrees to do one or more things;

(b) order a person to do one or more things that a person has agreed under paragraph (a) to do, regardless of whether those things could otherwise have been the subject of an order under Division 1, 3 or 4.

(2) If, under the terms of an agreement under subsection (1), a health officer conducts one or more inspections, the health officer may use information resulting from the inspection as the basis of an order under this Act, but must not use the information as the basis on which to

(a) levy an administrative penalty under this Act, or

(b) charge a person with an offence under this Act.

Contents of orders

39 (3) An order may be made in respect of a class of persons.

Duty to comply with orders

42 (1) A person named or described in an order made under this Part must comply with the order.

(2) Subsection (1) applies regardless of whether the person leaves the geographic area for which the health officer who made the order is designated.

Reconsideration of orders

43 (1) A person affected by an order, or the variance of an order, may request the health officer who issued the order or made the variance to reconsider the order or variance if the person

(a) has additional relevant information that was not reasonably available to the health officer when the order was issued or varied,

(b) has a proposal that was not presented to the health officer when the order was issued or varied but, if implemented, would

(i) meet the objective of the order, and

(ii) be suitable as the basis of a written agreement under section 38 [*may make written agreements*], or

(c) requires more time to comply with the order.

(2) A request for reconsideration must be made in the form required by the health officer.

(3) After considering a request for reconsideration, a health officer may do one or more of the following:

(a) reject the request on the basis that the information submitted in support of the request

(i) is not relevant, or

(ii) was reasonably available at the time the order was issued;

(b) delay the date the order is to take effect or suspend the order, if satisfied that doing so would not be detrimental to public health;

(c) confirm, rescind or vary the order.

(4) A health officer must provide written reasons for a decision to reject the request under subsection (3) (a) or to confirm or vary the order under subsection (3) (c).

(5) Following a decision made under subsection (3) (a) or (c), no further request for reconsideration may be made.

(6) An order is not suspended during the period of reconsideration unless the health officer agrees, in writing, to suspend it.

(7) For the purposes of this section,

(a) if an order is made that affects a class of persons, a request for reconsideration may be made by one person on behalf of the class, and

(b) if multiple orders are made that affect a class of persons, or address related matters or issues, a health officer may reconsider the orders separately or together.

(8) If a health officer is unable or unavailable to reconsider an order he or she made, a similarly designated health officer may act under this section in respect of the order as if the similarly designated health officer were reconsidering an order that he or she made.

Review of orders

44 (1) A person affected by an order may request a review of the order under this section only after a reconsideration has been made under section 43 [*reconsideration of orders*].

- (2) A request for a review may be made,
- (a) in the case of an order made by a medical health officer, to the provincial health officer, or
 - (b) in the case of an order made by an environmental health officer, to a medical health officer having authority in the geographic area for which the environmental health officer is designated.
- (3) If a review is requested, the review is to be based on the record.
- (4) If a review is requested, the reviewer may do one or more of the following:
- (a) delay the date the order is to take effect or suspend the order, if satisfied that doing so would not be detrimental to public health;
 - (b) confirm, vary or rescind the order;
 - (c) refer the matter back to the person who made the order, with or without directions.
- (5) A reviewer must provide written reasons for an action taken under subsection (4) (b) or (c), and a person may not request further review of an order.

Offences

- 99 (1) A person who contravenes any of the following provisions commits an offence:

...

(k) section 42 [*failure to comply with an order of a health officer*], except in respect of an order made under section 29 (2) (e) to (g) [*orders respecting examinations, diagnostic examinations or preventive measures*];

Liquor Control and Licensing Act [SBC 2015] Chapter 19

Conduct at event site or in establishment, service area or liquor store

- 61** (2) A licensee or permittee or an employee of either must not
- (a) sell or serve liquor to an intoxicated person or a person showing signs of intoxication, or
 - (b) allow
 - (i) a person in a service area to become intoxicated,
 - (ii) an intoxicated person to enter or remain in a service area,
- (3) A licensee or permittee or an employee of either may,
- (a) if he or she believes a person is intoxicated,
 - (i) request that the person leave a service area, or
 - (ii) forbid the person from entering a service area,

RE: For Response: Questions from the Opposition

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX s.15
To: Rongve, Ian HLTH:EX, Moulton, Holly HLTH:EX, Brook, Katrina J HLTH:EX
Cc: Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX
Sent: September 18, 2020 4:43:40 PM PDT
Received: September 18, 2020 4:43:00 PM PDT
Attachments: 1176645 MLA Letnick re PHO Orders.pdf, image001.jpg

Hi Ian and Holly.

Further to the requests below, wrt #2 Bonnie responded to the same request from MLA Norm Letnick earlier this week (see attached).

For #3 there is no "response letter to banquet halls, shutting them down". The order to prohibit banquet halls from holding events was issued orally at Bonnie's press conference on September 8, and published on the website today (see <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-pho-order-gatherings-events.pdf>).

I am not exactly sure what is being asked in #4, but the current and archived exposures listed on the VCH website provide a good indication of how widespread has been the problem in these settings (see <http://www.vch.ca/covid-19/public-exposures>).

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

From: Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX <Laurel.Thompson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 18, 2020 2:36 PM
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: For Response: Questions from the Opposition
Importance: High

Hi Brian,

Are you able to address the below in Haley's absence? Bonnie is currently on a flight/in transit.

Thanks,

Laurel Thompson | Executive Coordinator
Office of the Provincial Health Officer, Ministry of Health

From: Rongve, Ian HLTH:EX <Ian.Rongve@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 18, 2020 2:30 PM
To: Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX <Laurel.Thompson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: For Response: Questions from the Opposition

These questions

From: Brook, Katrina J HLTH:EX <Katrina.Brook@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 18, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Rongve, Ian HLTH:EX <Ian.Rongve@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: For Response: Questions from the Opposition

As requested, please see below.

From: Brook, Katrina J HLTH:EX
Sent: September 18, 2020 1:22 PM
To: Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX <Laurel.Thompson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: For Response: Questions from the Opposition

Hi Laurel,

Holly Moulton in the DMO provided ADM Rongve with the questions below from the opposition which are requiring a rush response. He can answer number one, and had asked me to send 2,3 and 4 to Haley Miller. Unfortunately she's out of office today, is there someone else in the PHO who might be able to provide a response today to these questions?

Any information you could provide would be appreciated.

Thank you,

<http://www.google.ca/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwi0kteg1KXNAhVGc1IKHQ6FBScQjRwIBw&url=http://best.bc.ca/sponsors/bc-government-logo-new/&psig=AFQjCNEDsUS_3NzQaR_YtYg2MN2xgwugKg&ust=1465929808142900>

Katrina Brook

A/ Executive Assistant to

Ian Rongve, Assistant Deputy Minister

COVID Response & Health Emergency Management Division

Ministry of Health

PO Box 9639 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria BC V8W 9P1

Tel: 778 974-2352

Email: Katrina.Brook@gov.bc.ca

From: Rongve, Ian HLTH:EX <Ian.Rongve@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 18, 2020 12:55 PM
To: Brook, Katrina J HLTH:EX <Katrina.Brook@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: Questions from the Opposition

I will answer #1. Can you send 2, 3 and 4 to the pho. Typically we send to

Haley miller

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Moulton, Holly HLTH:EX" <Holly.Moulton@gov.bc.ca>
Date: September 18, 2020 at 12:47:19 PM PDT
To: "Rongve, Ian HLTH:EX" <Ian.Rongve@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Questions from the Opposition

Hi Ian,

Questions from the Opposition:

1. What is the name of the company producing the new BC tests public? And what is it?
2. A written explanation of why bars have to stop serving liquor after 10pm (he says he received this from Bonnie, and is now asking for the scientific reasoning behind doing this for all of BC rather than just the lower mainland where the problem is)
3. A copy of our response letter to banquet halls, shutting them down.
4. "Members of my caucus have spoken to a number of bar and restaurant owners, individual and chains. They don't have any numbers in staff, patrons, or tracking calls on covid. I'm not sure to whom I should address the ask so perhaps you can help us and track down the evidence used to support these latest measures please?" (I am trying to find out what he is referring to with this ask)



1176645

September 15, 2020

Mr. Norm Letnick, MLA
101 - 330 Hwy 33 West
Kelowna, BC V1X 1X9

Dear Mr. Letnick:

Further to your question about regional approaches to management of COVID-19 and recent decisions with respect to nightclubs, banquet halls, and limits on hours of liquor service I am pleased to provide the following information.

Since the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic and with the ongoing restart plans, we have implemented many of our decisions consistently throughout the province. We know that the introduction of the virus can happen anywhere and at any time. Given travel patterns and the continued circulation and risk of introduction of the virus in communities in BC and in neighbouring jurisdictions we know that consistent messages and actions in all regions improves public confidence and compliance with public health advice and orders.

In the recent weeks a large proportion of new cases were linked to late evening parties at nightclubs, banquet halls and bars or restaurants that have limited menus and serve drinks in a bar-like setting after 10pm. The greatest number of cases were in Vancouver Coastal Health, Fraser Health and Interior Health. We made several public warnings about these issues to all health authorities.

However, cases of COVID-19 continued to increase, hospitalizations and admissions to intensive care units have increased and public health teams are spending significant resources attempting to find people who were exposed as contact information was lacking at many of these locations.

Many attempts to make the environments safer through adjustments to orders and guidance were having limited effects and we had illnesses in both staff who were exposed in their workplaces as well as customers. We also received complaints that staff were having challenges getting customers to comply with safety precautions later into the evening.

... \2

Public health officials in all health authorities discussed options to address the issue and all agreed this was an issue that threatened public health in every jurisdiction and that resources were being stretched to manage as cases and contacts increased. These increased cases and contacts are due to increased socialization and related parties fueled by liquor at nightclubs, banquet halls, bars and restaurants threaten communities throughout BC.

After provincial consultation I made the decision to amend the Provincial Health Officer order to close nightclubs and stand-alone banquet halls and to limit sales of liquor after 10pm when we were seeing many of the reported issues occurring.

We also included measures to address music and noise levels as this increases socialization and was a frequently reported as a concern from both staff and patrons who were forced to speak loudly and even shout, potentially spreading their droplets to those in closer proximity.

The merits of region-specific public health measures have been considered. However, regional variation appears to the public as inconsistencies and may weaken compliance with public health and government measures meant to protect people from the spread of COVID-19.

The risk of virus introduction anywhere remains a very real possibility and supports the need for our consistent, provincial-wide approach to COVID-19. If evidence and the epidemiology of the disease indicates a regional approach is warranted, and we can be assured our other actions will not be undermined, we would consider such an approach in the future.

Thank again for your query and I hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Henry'.

Bonnie Henry
MD, MPH, FRCPC
Provincial Health Officer

Cc: Minister of Health, Hon. Adrian Dix

FW: 09/18 Gathering and Events Order

From: Prov Hlth Office HLTH:EX <ProvHlthOffice@gov.bc.ca>
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 23, 2020 8:57:19 AM PDT
Received: September 23, 2020 8:57:20 AM PDT

Hi Brian!

Here is a correspondence asking about banquet halls. Let me know if this should be redirected elsewhere!

Thank you,

Alan Bruce

Correspondence and Administrative Coordinator

Office of the Provincial Health Officer

Ministry of Health

Mailing Address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT

Physical Address: 4th floor, 1515 Blanshard Street

Victoria BC V8W 9P4

778-698-1400|Email:alan.bruce@gov.bc.ca

From: Stefanie Chymko <SChymko@dawsoncreekeventscentre.com>
Sent: September 21, 2020 4:55 PM
To: Prov Hlth Office HLTH:EX <ProvHlthOffice@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: 09/18 Gathering and Events Order

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello,

I am looking for confirmation regarding our capacity to operate based on the latest order (issued 9/18/2020) on Gathering and Events, specifically the definition of a Banquet Hall.

The Encana Events Centre is a 4,500 seat sport and event centre with an indoor walking track and an attached banquet/multi purpose space. Our venue is owned by the City of Dawson Creek but operated by Spectra Venue Management. Would we be excluded as a banquet hall since we could be classified as a recreation centre and are government owned at a municipal level? More information about the venue can be found here:
<https://www.dawsoncreekeventscentre.com/arena-info/about-us>

We are hoping for some kind of confirmation to this exclusion as we try to program events for the last quarter that are within the order's conditions.

Thank you for your time,

STEFANIE CHYMKO

Director of Events
Encana Events Centre

Spectra Venue Management

O: 250.795.3334 M: 250.219.6340

schymko@dawsoncreekeventscentre.com

www.DawsonCreekEventsCentre.com <<http://www.dawsoncreekeventscentre.com/>>

www.SpectraExperiences.com <<http://www.spectraexperiences.com/>>

FW: Scan From <Device Name>

From: Bruce, Alan HLTH:EX <Alan.Bruce@gov.bc.ca>
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 25, 2020 2:47:41 PM PDT
Received: September 25, 2020 2:47:41 PM PDT
Attachments: City of surrey20200925.pdf

Hi Brian!

Here is a scanned copy of the letter from the City of Surrey about closing banquet halls.

Thank you!

Alan Bruce

Correspondence and Administrative Coordinator

Office of the Provincial Health Officer

Ministry of Health

Mailing Address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT

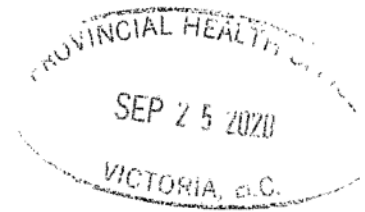
Physical Address: 4th floor, 1515 Blanshard Street

Victoria BC V8W 9P4

778-698-1400|Email:alan.bruce@gov.bc.ca

From: ALABRUCES <Alan.Bruce@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 25, 2020 2:46 PM
To: Bruce, Alan HLTH:EX <Alan.Bruce@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Scan From <Device Name>

CITY OF SURREY
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



September 22, 2020

Dr. Bonnie Henry
Provincial Health Officer
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9P4

Dear Dr. Henry:

RE: Banquet Halls Health Order

I am writing to you to ask you to reconsider the Provincial Health Order that imposes the closures of Banquet Halls.

While I fully understand and support the need to safeguard the public health of British Columbians, the decision to single out Banquet Halls for closure, while restaurants, golf and country clubs, and hotel ballrooms are allowed to remain open strikes me as unfair.

I believe that when any regulation is brought into place, the sector affected should be treated equally as a whole. Banquet Halls are governed by "restaurant bylaws" and yet they have been ordered to close, while restaurants remain open. Hotels and golf and country clubs, which host similar functions to Banquet Halls such as weddings, charitable and community events, are unaffected by the Health Order.

The order as it stands now has created an unlevel playing field, so much so that hotels and golf and country clubs are calling banquet hall operators and offering a 10% commission to poach their now cancelled bookings. As you can imagine this is adding insult to injury to the Banquet Hall operators who are fighting for their economic lives.

It's my understanding that the BC Banquet Hall Association has met with a number of MLAs and has also sent out a detailed proposal on how Banquet Halls can safely operate during COVID-19, but have yet to receive a response.



P 604 591 4126 MAYOR@SURREY.CA
13450-104 AVENUE SURREY BRITISH COLUMBIA CANADA V3T 1V8
WWW.SURREY.CA

Given the meaningful role Banquet Halls play in our communities, the Association's sincere pledge to operate safely during this pandemic, and in the interest of fairness, I urge you to re-evaluate the order that singles out Banquet Halls for closure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug McCallum". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Doug McCallum
Mayor
City of Surrey

cc: Sukh Mann, BC Banquet Hall Association

Banquet Halls -Incidents and rationale for prohibiting events in these places

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <s.15
To: XT:HLTH Brodtkin, Elizabeth, Tyson, Oonagh, Tyler, Ingrid Dr. HLTH:IN, Daly, Patty [VCH], Taki, Richard, XT:Lysyshyn, Mark Dr. HLTH:IN
Sent: September 30, 2020 10:59:35 AM PDT
Received: September 30, 2020 10:59:00 AM PDT

Good morning.

We have received a couple of letters from Surrey Members of Parliament and the Mayor, City of Surrey asking about the rationale for prohibiting events in banquet halls.

Please provide me some details of incidents, contraventions (without breaching confidentiality), other observations and any other rationale, that we could include in response letters wrt the problems that have been seen in association with these places to help explain the rationale for prohibiting events in these places.

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 Cs.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

media release Oct 6, 2020

From: BC Banquet Hall <bcbanquethall@gmail.com>
To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>, Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>, john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca, marvin.hunt.MLA@leg.bc.ca, Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX, Hunt.MLA, Marvin LASS:EX
Cc: micheal@riversidehalls.com, Ultimate Banquet Hall <info@ultimatebanquethall.com>, garry.begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca, Anita Huberman <anita@businessinsurrey.com>, Begg.MLA, Garry LASS:EX
Sent: October 8, 2020 2:10:08 PM PDT
Received: October 8, 2020 2:10:22 PM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello all,

im writing in response to a comment made by Bonnie Henry on her media statement dated Oct 06, 2020 where madam Bonnie Henry phrases that "exposure cases for staff were primarily at night clubs, bars & banquet halls " i don't understand where this is coming from is there any reports of covid 19 at any banquet hall? the last time i checked there has not been any cases at banquet halls! so why would you say that??? Banquet halls have had zero cases or have not been exposed to any risk of covid as we are abiding by rules of Covid 19 safety protocol's.

I also do not understand how restaurants are safe now? all the covid cases have come from restaurants, bars or nightclubs not Banquet halls, they are all over packed and hardly follow any rules relating to covid -19 your health inspectors are not doing their job by properly inspecting these restaurants but i feel you are turning a blind eye to this situation, while Banquet halls are being targeted for no reason at all and facing a complete shutdown with no benefits.

This is very unfair! and not the way people that are abiding by the rules should be treated. Now that we are shut down we do not qualify for a wage subsidy program which is affecting keeping people employed. How do we employ our workers when we have no income and no source of income from any government level? the next step which will directly affect our business and will even cause business to go bankrupt which is the CRBE rental subsidy program that program has now ended and we have no means to pay our rent....how long do you think it will be until our landlords kick us out or seize our property to make up for back rent or take us to court because we can not pay our rent?

But you still let hotel banquet rooms operate..... So on one hand you call us unsafe and say we have had covid cases and on the other hand you allow hotels to operate banquet halls and you give them \$100 million dollars as relief funds!

I'm not sure what more I can say but I really do believe we have been directly targeted for some unknown reason and we have tried to get multiple politicians or community members even the mayor has written you a letter of his support.

the last email Mr Emerson wrote back to us said he would not accept any further proposals? Why do you hate us? what did we do?

it gets me thinking that this is a political play by the NDP government to show the people LOOK WE SHUT DOWN THE BANQUET HALLS VOTE FOR US! I really hope that's not the case here.

please take this email into consideration of the current situation we are facing and have been facing for the last few months we want to abide by the rules and operate our facilities, we are even willing to let the school board use our

halls as classrooms imagine how safe people would feel if they knew their kids are only going to one building for the entire semester and they would only be exposed to those same people around them. That could generate revenue for us so we are not in the position of asking the government for money like the hotel industry.

hope to hear from you soon

regards

Sukh Mann

President

BC Banquet Hall Association

604-250-6596

RE: Banquet Halls -Incidents and rationale for prohibiting events in these places

From: Newhouse, Emily [FH] <Emily.Newhouse@fraserhealth.ca>
To: Kerwin, Oona [FH] <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>, Emerson, Brian [EXT] <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>, Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX
Cc: Shum, Tim [FH] <tim.shum@fraserhealth.ca>, XT:HLTH Shum, Tim
Sent: October 9, 2020 8:59:40 AM PDT
Received: October 9, 2020 9:00:04 AM PDT

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Brian,

At a minimum, we've had two clusters related to banquet halls – one cluster of 12 cases related to a celebration at a Surrey banquet hall, and one cluster of 6 cases associated with a Langley banquet hall.

However, I think it highly likely that this does not represent the extent of transmission associated with banquet halls for the following reasons:

1)As Oona described, banquet halls were knowingly operating in violation of the 50 person gathering order, which means that cases are less likely to disclose participation in an event on site.

2)Given use of two information systems (we transitioned part way through the pandemic) and various free-text entries on sites of exposure, it is not easy to quickly and systematically comb through our cases for all sites of exposure. Our epidemiologist pulled the two clusters above on the basis of a crude free-text search, but there are likely others. Given MHO turnover, we don't have the collective memory of clusters that we might normally.

Hope that is helpful.

Regards,

Emily

Emily Newhouse, MD, MPH, FRCPC

Medical Health Officer

Fraser Health

emily.newhouse@fraserhealth.ca

Ph: 236-332-9813 (M/W/T/Th)

604-542-4050 (F)

Fax: 604-930-5414

Administrative assistant:

Christy Burkett

Ph: 604-930-5405, ext 765638

christy.burkett@fraserhealth.ca

From: Kerwin, Oona [FH] <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2020 8:37 AM
To: Emerson, Brian [EXT] <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Shum, Tim [FH] <tim.shum@fraserhealth.ca>; Newhouse, Emily [FH] <Emily.Newhouse@fraserhealth.ca>
Subject: RE: Banquet Halls -Incidents and rationale for prohibiting events in these places

Hi Brian,

I am not aware of any cases associated with banquet halls in FH, only the potential risk due to the noted violations of the PHO Order. I will double check with our Public Health and epi folks here though, just in case I am not aware of any.

Thx,

oona

Oona Kerwin

Regional Director

Population and Public Health

Central City Tower

#100 - 13450 102 Avenue

Surrey, BC V3T 5X3

phone: 604-930-5405

fax: 604-930-5415

oonagh.tyson@fraserhealth.ca

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, October 09, 2020 7:05 AM
To: Kerwin, Oona [FH] <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>
Cc: Shum, Tim [FH] <tim.shum@fraserhealth.ca>; Taki, Richard [VCH] <Richard.Taki@vch.ca>
Subject: RE: Banquet Halls -Incidents and rationale for prohibiting events in these places

EXTERNAL SENDER. If you suspect this message is malicious, please forward to spam@phsa.ca and do not open attachments or click on links.

Hi Oona and thanks again for this information.

Can you say anything about COVID-19 exposure events or cases that can be associated with banquet halls?

For example see the attached report from VCH, thanks to Richard.

And to Richard - Thanks again for this report. Would you have any information about observations, inspections, violations wrt banquet halls similar to those provided by Oona below.

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C.s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

From: Tyson, Oonagh [FH] <Oonagh.Tyson@fraserhealth.ca>
Sent: October 2, 2020 10:46 AM
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: XT:HLTH Brodtkin, Elizabeth <elizabeth.brodtkin@fraserhealth.ca>; XT:HLTH Shum, Tim <tim.shum@fraserhealth.ca>
Subject: RE: Banquet Halls -Incidents and rationale for prohibiting events in these places

Hi Brian,

Surrey EHOs, in partnership with RCMP and Surrey by-law provided educational information to the banquet halls. We also conducted joint inspections with RCMP on a couple of weekends. Since the August 21st order providing police enforcement powers, they have been the primary enforcement agency.

Repeated violations were noted in several areas (summary listed below). We believe these violations are strong rationale for the PHO closure order. In addition, we feel the disproportionate amount of time spent by EHOs in providing education and monitoring of banquet halls in relation to other Covid-19 response activities provides additional rationale.

Observed violations:

- Majority of the halls were exceeding in capacity limit of 50 while operating
- There was lack of social distancing between different family groups while seated or standing around in the halls
- People were congregating at the bar area while drinking alcohol as the DJ played in the background
- There was no separation or barrier between the DJ and people congregating around the DJ while drinking
- There were no contact list maintained, if there were contact lists, they were not accurate by showing lesser names than people were actually present.
- People were helping themselves at the bar for alcohol (self serving although bartender present)
- As parties were taking place in multiple halls, the people were mingling with each other from different parties.

- Dinner buffets: no social distancing; no sanitizer; and there were rarely any PPEs being worn
- Large number of people dancing on the dance floors with no social distancing among them
- Two halls were operating while their business licenses were suspended
- One of the halls turned off the parking lights, closed the parking gate, but when visited inside by the RCMP there was a party going on with well over 50 people, and no controls on social distancing or providing hand hygiene at the dinner buffet and groups of people dancing on the dance floor shoulder to shoulder loud music and people having difficulty hearing each other. This banquet hall was never authorized to operate by the City or HA.
- Some of the halls had security guards on hall roof tops with binoculars on the lookout for uniformed personnel (bylaw and RCMP) so they could warn the partiers inside to disperse when the enforcement teams went in to do their checks.
- Majority of the parties went well beyond the allowed time limits. Some went to 1 AM in the morning
- Some banquet halls would open after the RCMP §.15 The party would start §.15
- During the visits by RCMP, majority of the time they couldn't reach the hall owner on site. Only the event holders were onsite. There was no responsibility by the hall owners.

If you require any further information, please let me know.

oonagh

Regional Director

Central City Tower

Surrey, BC V3T 5X3

fax: 604-930-5415

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>

To: Brodtkin, Elizabeth Dr. [FH] <Elizabeth.Brodtkin@fraserhealth.ca>; Tyson, Oonagh [FH] <Oonagh.Tyson@fraserhealth.ca>; Tyler, Ingrid [FH] <ingrid.tyler@fraserhealth.ca>; Daly, Patty [VCH] <Patricia.Daly@vch.ca>; Taki, Richard [VCH] <Richard.Taki@vch.ca>; Lysyshyn, Mark [VCH] <Mark.Lysyshyn@vch.ca>

Subject: Banquet Halls -Incidents and rationale for prohibiting events in these places

EXTERNAL SENDER. If you suspect this message is malicious, please forward to spam@phsa.ca and do not open attachments or click on links.

Good morning.

We have received a couple of letters from Surrey Members of Parliament and the Mayor, City of Surrey asking about the rationale for prohibiting events in banquet halls.

Please provide me some details of incidents, contraventions (without breaching confidentiality), other observations and any other rationale, that we could include in response letters wrt the problems that have been seen in association with these places to help explain the rationale for prohibiting events in these places.

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C^{s.17} F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

From: Linda Croasdale <care@themetrohalls.com>
To: brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca, Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX
Sent: October 21, 2020 7:34:31 PM PDT
Received: October 21, 2020 7:34:39 PM PDT
Attachments: image004.png, image006.png, image008.jpg, worksafety manual covid addendum.pdf, image007.png, image005.png, image002.jpg, image003.png, image001.jpg

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Dr. Emerson:

I own The Metro Banquet Hall in New West. I received the communication below on September 9 from a colleague and based on the information provided, it appears that my hall should be able to stay open. To be prudent, on September 11, I contacted The BC Ministry of Health, Fraser Health, Local Police and Bylaw to discuss all the protocols I have in place along with your letter below and all were of the opinion that it sounds like I am going above and beyond what is required and should be able to continue. They advised me to have your letter below along with the then current events and gatherings order and my COVID safety plan on hand in the event of a walk-through. I have been operating on that premise since.

However, I noticed recently that an updated "events and gatherings" order came out. The wording of that order puts The Metro in a "grey area" based on the definition of Banquet Hall defined as: a stand-alone premises built for the purpose of holding large social events, including banquets, generally involving many hundreds of people.

The Metro is a relatively small hall by comparison. Our pre-covid occupancy is 332 for a standing cocktail event (which we haven't been offering during the Pandemic) and 202 for a seated banquet (now of course reduced to 50 patrons for COVID). But despite that, we have consistently limited our capacity to 50 patrons as per the government orders and have had no problems complying with all government requirements under the previous "Events & Gatherings" orders.

In addition to always complying with the ordered occupancy requirements (50 patrons max for events), we have taken the following additional steps:

1. Completed a COVID safety plan (attached).
2. Met with our worksafe representative who passed our venue with flying colors on all requirements.
3. We have sanitizer on every banquet table.
4. We have plexi barriers available at every table for those patrons that would like added protections.
5. All lines have been replaced with fully sanitizable, vinyl covers.
6. All chairs requiring linen chair covers have been replaced with fully sanitizable leather chairs.
7. We wristband each bubble with colored bands (six patrons per color/bubble max) so our staff can immediately identify any patron not in their six person bubble and enforce compliance
8. We have a staff member dedicated to sanitization.

9. We have directional signage and instructional signage posted throughout.
10. All tables and chairbacks (outside of each 6 person bubble) are 2m apart.
11. We mandate that guests wear masks when travelling between the tables (eg. From tables to bathrooms, entrances and exits).

I understand from your letter below that the intention was to target large banquet halls in the Fraser Valley that typically cater to 1000-2200 guests and that were having trouble complying with the orders which we are not. However, based on the October 9 order, this is not clear. Does the word "many" apply to our pre-COVID occupancy limit of 332 for standing cocktail events (not possible during COVID)? This doesn't seem to constitute "many" which is defined by a "large number" of hundreds. Or, would it be applied to our pre-COVID banquet capacity of 202 (which by definition is only a couple)?

Either way, the lack of clarity around the number puts the venue and our guests at risk of being fined or shut down immediately if left up to interpretation by an enforcement officer which could result in our facing lawsuits. At the same time, being mandated closed under government order most definitely puts us in direct line of fire for lawsuits by our clients for "non-delivery" of service. In other words, the only way we avoid possible lawsuits is by staying open, while of course complying with COVID safety protocols.

If I had something in writing to confirm that we are able to remain open specifically as we DO NOT meet the definition of "many", this would allow me to keep my doors open under all other "events and gatherings order protocols" and would put my clients' minds at ease and alleviate any risk of mis-interpretation by enforcement on that one point.

As a side note, I do not want to put our patrons or our staff at undue risk and DO take the virus very seriously which is why we have implemented very strict protocols at The Metro. I know everyone is doing their best as are we. I'm just trying to do the right thing while also staying afloat.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Warmest regards,

Linda

Sales Manager

The Metro

759 Carnarvon Street

New Westminster, BC

V3M 1E6

Tel: 604-527-1122 ext. 0

www.themetrohalls.com

This mailbox is also monitored by Glacia, our Sales Coordinator to ensure fastest possible response times.

From: Sugar Mountain Catering s.22 >
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:42 PM
To: Linda Croasdale <care@themetrohalls.com>
Subject: Fwd: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

Here it is.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Stephanie Redlich <Stephanie@lonsdaleevents.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 9, 2020 at 2:08 PM
Subject: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"
To: info@sugarmountcatering.com <info@sugarmountcatering.com>, s.22
s.22

Hj s.22 Just received this from a "venue" in the lower mainland.

Cheers,

Stephanie

STEPHANIE REDLICH

General Manager

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say-they-need-increased-capacity-to-stay-open-but-b-c-not-backing-down-1.5077736).

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In the meantime there is no reason to cancel small events that are being planned to work within the parameters of the Gatherings and Events order.

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 Cs.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

COVID-19 SAFETY ADDENDUM

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, Federal, Provincial, and local governments and related health agencies recommend social distancing and have, in many locations, prohibited the congregation of groups of people.

Please refer to the latest government order which will be posted alongside our safety plan for the current requirements around physical distancing, safety measures and event allowances.

In addition to our standard worksafe practices contained within our manual, we have included the following additional practices in response to COVID-19.

Step 1 – Risk Assessment

The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads in several ways. It can spread in droplets when a person coughs or sneezes. It can also spread if you touch a contaminated surface and then touch your face. The risk of person-to-person transmission increases the closer you come to other people, the more time you spend near them, and the more people you come near. The risk of surface transmission increases when many people contact the same surface and when those contacts happen over sort periods of time.

We have identified areas where there may be risks, either through close physical proximity or through contaminated surfaces. The closer together workers are and the longer they are close to each other, the greater the risk.

- ☒ We have involved front line workers, supervisors, and the worker health and safety representative in completing our risk assessment. Our COVID-19 safety plan was posted on our staff online space to facilitate an open discussion and solicit feedback from our team.
- ☒ We have identified the following areas where people gather including:
 - Rental centre (underground)/staff only
 - Office
 - Public gathering rental spaces > Hollywood Ballroom, Mezzanine and Glam Lounge
 - Bar
 - Front lobby/entrance
 - Outside by smokers pole
- ☒ We have identified the following job tasks/processes where workers are close to one another or members of the public:
 - Bar area may require more than one staff member in close proximity and requires proximity to guests for drink service. Rental centre (underground)/staff only
 - Serving, bussing and clearing of food & beverage items & wares.
 - Greeting or coat check (as applicable)
 - Set up & tear downs may require workers to work in pairs at times.

- Client meetings
- Planner/coordinator will be required to interact with customers and staff
- ☑ We have identified the following tools, machinery and equipment that workers share while working:
 - Office supplies > each desk will be equipped with its own set of supplies unique to that workstation. Supplies will be stored in desk drawer. When retrieving any new inventory, staff are to wear masks and gloves or sanitize hands before and after retrieval.
 - Office printer – staff are to sanitize hands before and after retrieval of printouts.
 - Rental centre/inventory storage – staff are to sanitize hands before and after retrieval of inventory from any locations.
 - Bar – glassware, on tap mixer gun, bar fridge and other bar wares may be used by more than one staff member as inventory and service demands. Staff are to wear masks at all times while behind the bar & wash hands regularly following correct protocol as signed.
 - Food service equipment > when food service equipment is being handled, one dedicated staff member will be assigned to each section/station as required to avoid cross contamination.
- ☑ We have identified the following surfaces that people touch often:
 - Front entrance
 - lobby door handles (inside and outside)
 - Office
 - door handles
 - main office light switch
 - office supply cupboard handles
 - Stairwells
 - Handrails (all levels)
 - Ballroom
 - Guest tables and chairs
 - Light switches (chandeliers)
 - A/V system
 - Bar area
 - Bar tops/counters
 - Bar light switches
 - Fridge doors
 - Glass washer
 - Sink taps
 - Bathrooms
 - Toilet flushers
 - Stall locks and doors
 - Sink taps
 - Paper towel dispenser
 - Sprays & toiletries (have been removed)
 - Glam Lounge
 - Door handles

- Tables
- Chairs
- Bar top
- Fridge door
- Windowsills
- Light switches
- Sounds system
- Mezzanine
 - Handrail
 - Tabletops/counters
 - Chairs
 - Light switches (public areas)
- A/V Green Room (Balcony)
 - All light switches
 - Door handle

Step 2 – Protocols to Reduce Risk

Office/admin

1. Staff desks and work areas have been spaced apart to allow for physical distancing.
2. All employees are required to check temperature and record on staff check in sheet at start of each shift.
3. All staff are to wash hands on arrival, before any breaks, after bathroom use, and before leaving. Follow signs posted at handwashing stations for handwashing protocol.
4. Each desk/office administrator to be assigned an office supply kit unique to that desk (i.e. do not share office supplies).
5. Shared workstations such as printer station and office supply cupboard will be stocked with sanitizer. Staff required to wear a mask when using shared stations and sanitize before and after each use.
6. Staff must wear masks when within 6' of other staff members and when using shared workstations.
7. Staff to sanitize their desk at the end of each shift.
8. Clients are to maintain 6' physical distance from staff admin areas at all times.
9. Clients to be provided with non-porous seats to allow for sanitization.
10. Anyone who has had symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 10 days must self-isolate at home; symptoms include fever, chills, new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and new muscle aches or headache.
11. Anyone who has arrived from outside of Canada must self-isolate for 14 days and monitor for symptoms

During Events

1. All employees are required to check temperature and record on staff check in sheet at start of each shift.
2. All staff are to wash hands on arrival, before any breaks, after bathroom use, and before leaving. Follow signs posted at handwashing stations for handwashing protocol.
3. Hand sanitizer stations have been provided throughout the venue for staff and customer use.
4. All employees are to follow posted hand washing protocols (refer to posted signs).
5. Staff must wear masks at all times in client and service areas or when within 6' of other staff members and when using shared workstations. Refer to posted signage in employee check-in area for guidance on how to properly wear a mask.
6. Staff to refrain from making contact with customers (for example, no hand shaking or hugging).
7. Events are limited to 50 attendees. Attendees must remain in parties/groups/tables of up to 6 people maximum and must remain 6' from other attendees outside of their group.
8. During buffet service, chef to provide 2 food service workers to plate food for customers. Customers will remain 6' from buffet at all times and 6' from other guests unless they are part of the same 6-person group. Guests will walk down the buffet line while food service staff plate customer selections. At end of buffet, chef will place plated food on food pick up table. A sanitizer station will be placed at the beginning of the buffet station.
9. At the bar, we have installed a vinyl barrier to provide separation between customers and bar staff. Bar staff are to sanitize the front and back of this barrier on completion of each shift.
10. When linens are being used, all linens (chair covers, napkins and table cloths) must be replaced after each client group/use and set for laundering or must be covered with a non-porous, sanitizeable cover such as a clear PVC table covering. Staff to wear gloves & masks when removing linens.
11. All tables and chairs are to be sanitized after each event or client grouping.
12. A worker will be assigned to wipe down high touch areas every 30 minutes on the 30.
13. Traffic flow – when travelling up & down stairs or through doorways, always stay in the right lane and maintain 6' of physical distancing.

Set-Up & Tear Down

1. All employees are required to check temperature and record on staff check in sheet at start of each shift.
2. All staff are to wash hands on arrival, before any breaks, after bathroom use, and before leaving. Follow signs posted at handwashing stations for handwashing protocol.
3. Staff must wear masks and gloves when setting up any and all client personal use items such as client food service wares, utensils, linens, tables, chairs, tops, microphone, sound system, etc.
4. Staff must wear masks and gloves when working within 6' of each other (for example, carrying furniture together).
5. All client personal use items are to be sanitized after each use (unless being send back to third party supplier or laundromat)
6. Staff to perform sanitization of all high touch areas upon completion of event set up. (Mask and gloves to be worn)

Post-Event Clean

1. All employees are required to check temperature and record on staff check in sheet at start of each shift.
2. All staff are to wash hands on arrival, before any breaks, after bathroom use, and before leaving. Follow signs posted at handwashing stations for handwashing protocol.
3. Staff must wear masks and gloves when working within 6' of other staff members.
4. Masks must be worn at all times when cleaning client high touch areas (tables, handrails, bar tops, taps)
5. Refer to the "cleaning check-list" in the "Position descriptions document" for additional COVID sanitization requirements.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

To properly disinfect surfaces:

1. Clean/remove any debris first. Any residue left on surfaces may deactivate the disinfectant. You can use soap and water to clean first.
2. Then, disinfect the surface using disinfectant spray. Read and follow label instructions for proper use and contact times.

Occupancy Limits

Signage has been posted with occupancy limits.

Restaurant Service (To follow)

50% of seated occupancy

Events

Ballroom: 50 patrons

Lounge: 30 patrons

During an event:

1. there must be no more than fifty patrons present in total on the premises, even if this number is less than the maximum number of patrons permitted on the premises under the safety plan,
2. fifty patrons may only be present if this is not more than the total number of patrons permitted on the premises under the safety plan.
3. Despite paragraph 1, if the event is taking place in an area completely separated from the rest of the premises, there may be additional patrons present in other parts of the premises, if the total number of patrons present on the premises does not exceed the maximum number of patrons permitted on the premises under the safety plan.
1. During an event, patrons who leave the premises, or the area of the premises in which the event is being held, must not be replaced by other patrons.

Step 3: Policies (Symptoms/Transmission)

Workers and others showing symptoms of COVID 19 are prohibited from entering:

1. Anyone who has had symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 10 days. Symptoms include fever, chills, new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, and new muscle aches or headache.
2. Anyone directed by Public Health to self-isolate.
3. Anyone who has arrived from outside of Canada must self-isolate for 14 days and monitor for symptoms. (signage will be placed on front entry)

If a worker begins to feel ill at work:

1. Workers who begin feeling ill at work even if symptoms are mild, should report to your supervisor,
2. Sick workers are to wash, sanitize hands, put on a mask and isolate.
3. Sick workers are to go straight home. (Consult the BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool or call 811 for further guidance related to testing and self-isolation.)
4. Supervisors are to refer to OFAA protocols for use during the pandemic.
<file:///C:/Users/Linda/Downloads/ofaa-protocols-covid-19-pdf-en.pdf>
5. Supervisor is to call 911 if the worker is severely ill (e.g. Difficulty breathing, chest pain)
6. Supervisor is to clean & disinfect any surfaces that the ill worker has come into contact with.

Step 4: Communication and Training

1. A copy of our COVID 19 safety plan has been posted in our staff area.
2. All workers have been provided with a copy of the safety plan in their inbox for reading and sign-off. This includes policies on staying home when sick.
3. Signage has been posted to reflect occupancy limits and proper handwashing protocols.
4. Signage has been posted at the main entrance indicating who is restricted from entering.
5. Supervisors have been trained on monitoring workers and the workplace to ensure that policies and procedures are being followed.

Step 5: Monitor the workplace and update plans as necessary

1. We have a plan in place to monitor risks. We make changes to our policies as necessary. Staff are encouraged to provide feedback on possible risks during S/D safety meetings at the start of each shift.
2. Workers know who to go to with health and safety concerns. Signage has been posted in our staff area identifying designated safety team member(s) and how to contact.
3. When resolving safety issues, we will involve our worker health and safety representative and other workers.

Step 6: Assess and address risks from resuming operations

1. We have a training plan for new staff. This is part of our existing training process located in our network as part of our “new hire” protocol.

2. We have a training plan for staff taking on new roles or responsibilities. This is part of our existing training process located in our network as part of our “new hire” protocol.
3. We have reviewed our cleaning systems and products that have been out of use and have adjusted accordingly as part of our ongoing Worksafe plan.

REFERENCES:

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/health-safety/checklist/covid-19-safety-plan?lang=en>

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/covid-19-updates/covid-19-returning-safe-operation>

RE: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX
s.15
To: Linda Croasdale
Sent: October 22, 2020 9:20:51 AM PDT
Received: October 22, 2020 9:20:00 AM PDT
Attachments: image004.png, image006.png, image007.png, image008.jpg, image005.png, image002.jpg, image003.png, image001.jpg

Dear Linda Croasdale.

Thank you for your query.

I note that you have been in contact with Fraser Health with respect to your question. If you have anything in writing from them, or have the name of the person that you contacted, please let me know as I will need to check in with them for their perspective.

Otherwise I will ask them to follow up to let me know their views.

Thank you.

Brian Emerson

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

From: Linda Croasdale <care@themetrohalls.com>
Sent: October 21, 2020 7:35 PM
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

Dear Dr. Emerson:

I own The Metro Banquet Hall in New West. I received the communication below on September 9 from a colleague and based on the information provided, it appears that my hall should be able to stay open. To be prudent, on September 11, I contacted The BC Ministry of Health, Fraser Health, Local Police and Bylaw to discuss all the protocols I have in place along with your letter below and all were of the opinion that it sounds like I am going above and beyond what is required and should be able to continue. They advised me to have your letter below along with the then current events and gatherings order and my COVID safety plan on hand in the event of a walk-through. I have been operating on that premise since.

However, I noticed recently that an updated "events and gatherings" order came out. The wording of that order puts The Metro in a "grey area" based on the definition of Banquet Hall defined as: a stand-alone premises built for the purpose of holding large social events, including banquets, generally involving many hundreds of people.

The Metro is a relatively small hall by comparison. Our pre-covid occupancy is 332 for a standing cocktail event (which we haven't been offering during the Pandemic) and 202 for a seated banquet (now of course reduced to 50 patrons for COVID). But despite that, we have consistently limited our capacity to 50 patrons as per the government orders and have had no problems complying with all government requirements under the previous "Events & Gatherings" orders.

In addition to always complying with the ordered occupancy requirements (50 patrons max for events), we have taken the following additional steps:

1. Completed a COVID safety plan (attached).
2. Met with our worksafe representative who passed our venue with flying colors on all requirements.
3. We have sanitizer on every banquet table.
4. We have plexi barriers available at every table for those patrons that would like added protections.
5. All lines have been replaced with fully sanitizable, vinyl covers.
6. All chairs requiring linen chair covers have been replaced with fully sanitizable leather chairs.
7. We wristband each bubble with colored bands (six patrons per color/bubble max) so our staff can immediately identify any patron not in their six person bubble and enforce compliance
8. We have a staff member dedicated to sanitization.
9. We have directional signage and instructional signage posted throughout.
10. All tables and chairbacks (outside of each 6 person bubble) are 2m apart.
11. We mandate that guests wear masks when travelling between the tables (eg. From tables to bathrooms, entrances and exits).

I understand from your letter below that the intention was to target large banquet halls in the Fraser Valley that typically cater to 1000-2200 guests and that were having trouble complying with the orders which we are not. However, based on the October 9 order, this is not clear. Does the word "many" apply to our pre-COVID occupancy limit of 332 for standing cocktail events (not possible during COVID)? This doesn't seem to constitute "many" which is defined by a "large number" of hundreds. Or, would it be applied to our pre-COVID banquet capacity of 202 (which by definition is only a couple)?

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Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Warmest regards,

Linda

Sales Manager

The Metro

759 Carnarvon Street

New Westminster, BC

V3M 1E6

Tel: 604-527-1122 ext. 0

www.themetrohalls.com

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From: Sugar Mountain Catering <s.22

Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:42 PM

To: Linda Croasdale <care@themetrohalls.com>

Subject: Fwd: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

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Date: Wed, Sep 9, 2020 at 2:08 PM

Subject: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

To: info@sugarmountcatering.com <info@sugarmountcatering.com>, s.22

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General Manager

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<<https://www.linkedin.com/company/lonsdale-event-rentals>> <<https://www.pinterest.com/lonsdalerentals/>>
<<https://twitter.com/lonsdalerentals>>
<<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2M8MG9D?sm=2Xhmkh6W2wG6JfdRh/e9IA==>>

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BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C 250.952.1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

RE: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

From: Linda Croasdale <care@themetrohalla.com>
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 23, 2020 2:28:48 AM PDT
Received: October 23, 2020 2:28:57 AM PDT
Attachments: image004.png, image007.png, image006.png, image008.jpg, image005.png, image002.jpg, image003.png, image001.jpg

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Unfortunately I don't. The day I made the calls, I noted the names on my electronic notepad on my computer but my computer crashed before I had a chance to save them. The only record I have is of my call log in my phone but the name is not attached. From the ministry of health, I received a call back from the number 604-675-7400. I spoke to a female representative about all our protocols for just over 15 minutes. And at Fraser Health, I contacted 604-587-3936 and was on the phone for just over 14 minutes.

Sorry I can't be of greater help there.

Warmest regards,

Linda

Sales Manager

The Metro

759 Carnarvon Street

New Westminster, BC

V3M 1E6

Tel: 604-527-1122 ext. 0

www.themetrohalla.com

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From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2020 9:21 AM
To: Linda Croasdale <care@themetrohalla.com>
Subject: RE: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

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Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Warmest regards,

Linda

Sales Manager

The Metro

759 Carnarvon Street

New Westminster, BC

V3M 1E6

Tel: 604-527-1122 ext. 0

www.themetrohall.com

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From: Sugar Mountain Catering -s.22
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:42 PM
To: Linda Croasdale <care@themetrohall.com>
Subject: Fwd: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

Here it is.

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From: Stephanie Redlich <Stephanie@lonsdaleevents.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 9, 2020 at 2:08 PM
Subject: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"
To: info@sugarmountaincatering.com <info@sugarmountaincatering.com> s.22
s.22

Hi s.22 Just received this from a "venue" in the lower mainland.

Cheers,

Stephanie

STEPHANIE REDLICH

General Manager

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We will be working over the next few days to nail down a workable definition of "Banquet Hall" to avoid negative impacts on those facilities that are working well within the 50 person limit. If you have suggestions in this regard I would be pleased to hear them.

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Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

The Metro Banquet Hall in New West - Clarification Regarding "Banquet Halls" definition

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX s.15
To: Kerwin, Oona
Sent: October 26, 2020 6:13:17 PM PDT
Received: October 26, 2020 6:13:00 PM PDT
Attachments: image006.png, image007.png, image004.png, image008.jpg, image002.jpg, image003.png, image001.jpg, image005.png

Hello Oona.

I received the query below asking for clarification wrt whether this is a "banquet hall" per the Gatherings and Events order.

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So, I just wanted to check in with you to see if FH has any concerns with this operation before I confirm that she does not meet the banquet hall definition.

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T 250.952.1701 C s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

From: Linda Croasdale <care@themetrohalls.com>
Sent: October 21, 2020 7:35 PM
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

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Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:42 PM

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Subject: Fwd: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

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T 250.952.1701 C 250.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

RE: The Metro Banquet Hall in New West - Clarification Regarding "Banquet Halls" definition

From: Stewart, Gord [FH] <Gord.Stewart@fraserhealth.ca>
To: Kerwin, Oona [FH] <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>, Emerson, Brian [EXT] <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>, Serizawa, Daisuke [FH] <Daisuke.Serizawa@fraserhealth.ca>, Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX
Sent: October 27, 2020 9:02:27 AM PDT
Received: October 27, 2020 9:03:00 AM PDT
Attachments: image002.jpg, image004.png, image006.png, image007.png, image008.jpg, image005.png, image003.png, image001.jpg

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Daisuke may be able to clarify the discussions with the facility.

Gord Stewart

From: Kerwin, Oona [FH] <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 6:53 PM
To: Emerson, Brian [EXT] <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Stewart, Gord [FH] <Gord.Stewart@fraserhealth.ca>
Subject: RE: The Metro Banquet Hall in New West - Clarification Regarding "Banquet Halls" definition

Hi Brian, I agree that the pre-covid seated capacity of 202 would be the number to apply, rather than the standing capacity. This is a bit of a grey area but it is quite small compared to the banquet halls we have had compliance issues with. The size is more comparable to a hotel ballroom. I would not have concerns if you replied that she does not meet the definition. I have copied the manager for New West on this (Gord Stewart) as he may have information on any communication we may have had with her.

Thx,

oona

Oona Kerwin

Regional Director

Population and Public Health

Central City Tower

#100 - 13450 102 Avenue

Surrey, BC V3T 5X3

phone: 604-930-5405

fax: 604-930-5415

oona.kerwin@fraserhealth.ca

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 6:13 PM
To: Kerwin, Oona [FH] <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>
Subject: The Metro Banquet Hall in New West - Clarification Regarding "Banquet Halls" definition

EXTERNAL SENDER. If you suspect this message is malicious, please forward to spam@phsa.ca and do not open attachments or click on links.

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T 250.952.1701 C 250.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

RE: The Metro Banquet Hall in New West - Clarification Regarding "Banquet Halls" definition

From: Serizawa, Daisuke [FH] <Daisuke.Serizawa@fraserhealth.ca>
To: Stewart, Gord [FH] <Gord.Stewart@fraserhealth.ca>, Kerwin, Oona [FH] <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>, Emerson, Brian [EXT] <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>, XT:HLTH Stewart, Gord, Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX
Sent: October 27, 2020 11:00:12 AM PDT
Received: October 27, 2020 11:01:01 AM PDT
Attachments: image002.jpg, image004.png, image006.png, image007.png, image008.jpg, image005.png, image003.png, image001.jpg

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Hi Brian,

I am the area health inspector for Metro Hall. I had spoken with the operator prior to the banquet hall order had come out and she went over her controls with me to which I had no objections. There are several halls in New Westminster that are of similar size and I had mentioned to them when they asked, that their capacity is not consistent with the intent of the "banquet hall" definitions and that they could continue to operate. Continued operation was on the condition that all other COVID controls and restrictions are followed such as the 50 patron cap, physical distancing, seats at a table limit, etc.

I have no objections that they are recognized that they do not meet the definition of a banquet hall.

Daisuke Serizawa | CPHI(C) | Environmental Health Officer

New Westminster Health Unit | Health Protection | #218 – 610 Sixth Street, New Westminster, BC V3L 3C2

www.fraserhealth.ca <<http://www.fraserhealth.ca/>> | daisuke.serizawa@fraserhealth.ca | Tel 604-777-6725 | Fax 604-525-0878

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From: Stewart, Gord [FH] <Gord.Stewart@fraserhealth.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2020 9:02 AM
To: Kerwin, Oona [FH] <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>; Emerson, Brian [EXT] <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>; Serizawa, Daisuke [FH] <Daisuke.Serizawa@fraserhealth.ca>
Subject: RE: The Metro Banquet Hall in New West - Clarification Regarding "Banquet Halls" definition

Daisuke may be able to clarify the discussions with the facility.

Gord Stewart

From: Kerwin, Oona [FH] <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 6:53 PM
To: Emerson, Brian [EXT] <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Stewart, Gord [FH] <Gord.Stewart@fraserhealth.ca>

Subject: RE: The Metro Banquet Hall in New West - Clarification Regarding "Banquet Halls" definition

Hi Brian, I agree that the pre-covid seated capacity of 202 would be the number to apply, rather than the standing capacity. This is a bit of a grey area but it is quite small compared to the banquet halls we have had compliance issues with. The size is more comparable to a hotel ballroom. I would not have concerns if you replied that she does not meet the definition. I have copied the manager for New West on this (Gord Stewart) as he may have information on any communication we may have had with her.

Thx,

oona

Oona Kerwin

Regional Director

Population and Public Health

Central City Tower

#100 - 13450 102 Avenue

Surrey, BC V3T 5X3

phone: 604-930-5405

fax: 604-930-5415

oona.kerwin@fraserhealth.ca

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 6:13 PM

To: Kerwin, Oona [FH] <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>

Subject: The Metro Banquet Hall in New West - Clarification Regarding "Banquet Halls" definition

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So, I just wanted to check in with you to see if FH has any concerns with this operation before I confirm that she does not meet the banquet hall definition.

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C^{s.17} F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

From: Linda Croasdale <care@themetrohalls.com>
Sent: October 21, 2020 7:35 PM
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

Dear Dr. Emerson:

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However, I noticed recently that an updated "events and gatherings" order came out. The wording of that order puts The Metro in a "grey area" based on the definition of Banquet Hall defined as: a stand-alone premises built for the purpose of holding large social events, including banquets, generally involving many hundreds of people.

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In addition to always complying with the ordered occupancy requirements (50 patrons max for events), we have taken the following additional steps:

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11. We mandate that guests wear masks when travelling between the tables (eg. From tables to bathrooms, entrances and exits).

I understand from your letter below that the intention was to target large banquet halls in the Fraser Valley that typically cater to 1000-2200 guests and that were having trouble complying with the orders which we are not. However, based on the October 9 order, this is not clear. Does the word "many" apply to our pre-COVID occupancy limit of 332 for standing cocktail events (not possible during COVID)? This doesn't seem to constitute "many" which is defined by a "large number" of hundreds. Or, would it be applied to our pre-COVID banquet capacity of 202 (which by definition is only a couple)?

Either way, the lack of clarity around the number puts the venue and our guests at risk of being fined or shut down immediately if left up to interpretation by an enforcement officer which could result in our facing lawsuits. At the same time, being mandated closed under government order most definitely puts us in direct line of fire for lawsuits by our clients for "non-delivery" of service. In other words, the only way we avoid possible lawsuits is by staying open, while of course complying with COVID safety protocols.

If I had something in writing to confirm that we are able to remain open specifically as we DO NOT meet the definition of "many", this would allow me to keep my doors open under all other "events and gatherings order protocols" and would put my clients' minds at ease and alleviate any risk of mis-interpretation by enforcement on that one point.

As a side note, I do not want to put our patrons or our staff at undue risk and DO take the virus very seriously which is why we have implemented very strict protocols at The Metro. I know everyone is doing their best as are we. I'm just trying to do the right thing while also staying afloat.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Warmest regards,

Linda

Sales Manager

The Metro

759 Carnarvon Street

New Westminster, BC

V3M 1E6

Tel: 604-527-1122 ext. 0

www.themetrohall.com

This mailbox is also monitored by Glacia, our Sales Coordinator to ensure fastest possible response times.

From: Sugar Mountain Catering <s.22
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:42 PM
To: Linda Croasdale <care@themetrohall.com>
Subject: Fwd: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

Here it is.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Stephanie Redlich <Stephanie@lonsdaleevents.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 9, 2020 at 2:08 PM
Subject: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"
To: info@sugarmountaincatering.com <info@sugarmountaincatering.com>, s.22
s.22

Hi s.22 Just received this from a "venue" in the lower mainland.

Cheers,

Stephanie

STEPHANIE REDLICH

General Manager

LONSDALE event rentals | LonsdaleEvents.com <<http://www.lonsdaleevents.com/>>

8010 Winston Street, Burnaby, BC V5A 2H5 <[https://www.google.com/maps/search/8010 Winston Street, Burnaby, BC V5A 2H5?entry=gmail&source=g](https://www.google.com/maps/search/8010+Winston+Street,+Burnaby,+BC+V5A+2H5?entry=gmail&source=g)>

(604) 422-8999

<<http://lonsdaleevents.com/>> <<http://fb.me/lonsdalerentals>> <<https://www.instagram.com/lonsdalerentals/>>
<<https://www.linkedin.com/company/lonsdale-event-rentals>> <<https://www.pinterest.com/lonsdalerentals/>>
<<https://twitter.com/lonsdalerentals>>
<<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2M8MG9D?sm=2Xhmkh6W2wG6JfdRh/e9IA==>>

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Including Pubs, Bars, Lounges, Nightclubs and Tasting Rooms order, to add that stand-alone banquet halls must be

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We will be working over the next few days to nail down a workable definition of "Banquet Hall" to avoid negative impacts on those facilities that are working well within the 50 person limit. If you have suggestions in this regard I would be pleased to hear them.

In the meantime there is no reason to cancel small events that are being planned to work within the parameters of the Gatherings and Events order.

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C^{s.17} F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

RE: The Metro Banquet Hall in New West - Clarification Regarding "Banquet Halls" definition

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <s.15>
To: Serizawa, Daisuke [FH], XT:HLTH Stewart, Gord, Kerwin, Oona [FH]
Sent: October 27, 2020 11:08:15 AM PDT
Received: October 27, 2020 11:08:00 AM PDT
Attachments: image002.jpg, image004.png, image006.png, image007.png, image008.jpg, image005.png, image003.png, image001.jpg

Thank you all for the prompt follow up. I will communicate your perspective to the operator, and copy all of you.

Hope you are all holding up OK in dealing with the recent surge. Stay well!

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

From: Serizawa, Daisuke [FH] <Daisuke.Serizawa@fraserhealth.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2020 11:00 AM
To: XT:HLTH Stewart, Gord <gord.stewart@fraserhealth.ca>; Kerwin, Oona [FH] <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>; Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: The Metro Banquet Hall in New West - Clarification Regarding "Banquet Halls" definition

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Hi Brian,

I am the area health inspector for Metro Hall. I had spoken with the operator prior to the banquet hall order had come out and she went over her controls with me to which I had no objections. There are several halls in New Westminster that are of similar size and I had mentioned to them when they asked, that their capacity is not consistent with the intent of the "banquet hall" definitions and that they could continue to operate. Continued operation was on the condition that all other COVID controls and restrictions are followed such as the 50 patron cap, physical distancing, seats at a table limit, etc.

I have no objections that they are recognized that they do not meet the definition of a banquet hall.

Daisuke Serizawa| CPHI(C) | Environmental Health Officer

New Westminster Health Unit| Health Protection | #218 – 610 Sixth Street, New Westminster, BC V3L 3C2

www.fraserhealth.ca <<http://www.fraserhealth.ca/>>|daisuke.serizawa@fraserhealth.ca| Tel 604-777-6725 | Fax 604-525-0878

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Oona Kerwin

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Population and Public Health

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#100 - 13450 102 Avenue

Surrey, BC V3T 5X3

phone: 604-930-5405

fax: 604-930-5415

oona.kerwin@fraserhealth.ca

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BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 C^s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

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Sent: October 21, 2020 7:35 PM
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Warmest regards,

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759 Carnarvon Street

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Tel: 604-527-1122 ext. 0

www.themetrohall.com

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Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:42 PM

To: Linda Croasdale <care@themetrohall.com>

Subject: Fwd: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

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Date: Wed, Sep 9, 2020 at 2:08 PM

Subject: FW: Clarification from Dr. Emerson Regarding "Banquet Halls"

To: info@sugarmountaincatering.com <info@sugarmountaincatering.com>, s.22

s.22

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STEPHANIE REDLICH

General Manager

LONSDALE event rentals | LonsdaleEvents.com <<http://www.lonsdaleevents.com/>>

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<<https://www.linkedin.com/company/lonsdale-event-rentals>> <<https://www.pinterest.com/lonsdalerentals/>>
<<https://twitter.com/lonsdalerentals>>
<<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2M8MG9D?sm=2Xhmkh6W2wG6JfdRh/e9IA==>>

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Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1
T 250.952.1701 Cs.17 F. 250.952. 1713 brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca

FW: Request for exception to banquet hall closure

From: Prov Hlth Office HLTH:EX <ProvHlthOffice@gov.bc.ca>
To: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2020 12:23:50 PM PDT
Received: October 27, 2020 12:23:51 PM PDT
Attachments: Letter from The New Joshua Generation Fellowship Int'l10262020.pdf

Hi Brian!

I have another exemption request here.

Thank you,

Alan Bruce

Correspondence and Administrative Coordinator

Office of the Provincial Health Officer

Ministry of Health

Mailing Address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT

Physical Address: 4th floor, 1515 Blanshard Street

Victoria BC V8W 9P4

778-698-1400|Email:alan.bruce@gov.bc.ca

From: Accounting (South Hall) <mandeep@southhall.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2020 11:51 AM
To: Prov Hlth Office HLTH:EX <ProvHlthOffice@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: s.22 Rajan Kainth <rajan@southhall.ca>
Subject: Request for exception to banquet hall closure

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good morning

In reference to the September 18 order to close stand alone banquet halls, we are writing to ask for an exception to be considered please.

Attached is a letter from a customer / tenant who used to use our facility as their House of Worship. They have been with us for over a year and we have had no concerns with them following our procedures and protocols, both set by us, as well as by you during this pandemic.

The church respectfully ceased their services immediately after the order came out.

In addition to the protocols listed in their letter, please note the following:

* worship service is prior to 12 noon; our staff begin work after 12 noon

* cleaning of the space is done by our staff both before and after the service

* separate entrance is used for the area - no interaction with anyone who may (in the past) use the main banquet hall

We are asking that a case-by-case exception be made for stand alone banquet hall owners - such as us. Our facility is not just a banquet hall; it's a multi-use facility that allows for many other uses.

If you could please review and evaluate our humble request to be allowed to provide a space for this Church.

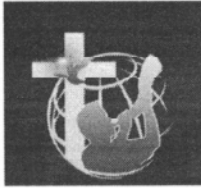
Thank you kindly

Anu Kainth

Rajan Kainth

Accounting @ South Hall

604.323.8273



The New Joshua Generation Fellowship International
PO Box 19420 Burnaby, BC V5H 4J8
Email:s.22

October 26, 2020

Dr. Bonnie Henry,
British Columbia Provincial Health Officer,
Ministry of Health,
1515 Blanshard Street,
Victoria, BC V8W 3C9

Dear Dr Henry:

I hope you are well.

I am a Director of The New Joshua Generation Fellowship International, a church here in Vancouver.

I am writing this letter in behalf of the Directors and members to clarify your decision of closing down banquet halls due to the rising COVID cases in BC. It is confusing on our part as there are no clear directives on churches gathering in banquet halls. We used to gather at South hall Banquet hall until its temporary closure in September.

It is our desire to go back to church and respectfully request to be allowed to do so since we have been strictly following safe protocols such as:

Only 40 people below are allowed in the hall

Sanitizing the area before use

Limiting our Sunday Worship service to 1 hour up to 1 hour 15 minutes

Wearing masks/face shield the whole time we are in the hall

Physical Distancing

Taking Temperatures before Entry

Contact Tracing forms are filled out

Sanitizing hands before entry

Seniors are not encouraged to come

Limit 1 person in the washrooms at a time

Elevator use is not allowed, Windows are opened and we use an air purifier

No food allowed

I hope and pray that you would consider this request upon careful evaluation of this matter.

Respectfully,


Maria Gálvez

From: [van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX](#)
To: [Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX](#)
Subject: FW: HLTH 1176934 REFER Re: BC Banquet hall Association | 1176934
Date: September 18, 2020 4:37:26 PM

Are you planning on meeting with the BC Banquet Association? See below from Bonnie's office

From: Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX <Laurel.Thompson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 18, 2020 4:36 PM
To: van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX <Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: HLTH 1176934 REFER Re: BC Banquet hall Association | 1176934

Yes, I brought it to her attention at 2pm today and that was her response.

Laurel Thompson | *Executive Coordinator*
Office of the Provincial Health Officer, Ministry of Health

From: van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX <Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 18, 2020 4:35 PM
To: Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX <Laurel.Thompson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: HLTH 1176934 REFER Re: BC Banquet hall Association | 1176934

This is what Bonnie indicated today?

From: Thompson, Laurel HLTH:EX <Laurel.Thompson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 18, 2020 4:34 PM
To: van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX <Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Bruce, Alan HLTH:EX <Alan.Bruce@gov.bc.ca>; Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: HLTH 1176934 REFER Re: BC Banquet hall Association | 1176934

Hi Amanda,

I brought this to Dr. Henry's attention and she seems to remember that Minister Dix indicated he will be taking this meeting? Can Minister provide advice on how he would like Dr. Henry to respond to this?

Thank you,

Laurel Thompson | *Executive Coordinator*
Office of the Provincial Health Officer, Ministry of Health

From: BC Banquet Hall <bcbanquethall@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 8:25 PM
To: Horgan.MLA, John <John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Cc: Ultimate Banquet Hall <info@ultimatebanquethall.com>; micheal@riversidehalls.com

Subject: BC Banquet hall Association

Hello John, my name is Sukh Mann and i would like to meet with you regarding the current situation that we are facing with operating our business.

As you know or have seen in the news we are trying everything to comply with regulations and are facing numerous challenges. We are coming to you now because we feel we have no where else to go.

We would be happy to come to Victoria or where ever is convenient for you to meet with you please let me know when you are available to meet with us.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards

Sukh Man
President
BC Banquet Hall Association
604-250-6596

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BC Banquet Hall Association