



**NL COVID-19 Alert Level System:
Implications for Municipalities**

Alert Level	Public Health Measures	Municipal Operations
All	<p>The COVID-19 Alert Level System provides Newfoundlanders and Labradorians with an overview of the steps that will be taken as public health measures are relaxed. We will move through the Alert Levels gradually with continued monitoring of COVID-19 in our communities. We may move up or down Alert Levels as needed.</p> <p>Learn about the COVID -19 Alert Level System at https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/alert-system/</p> <p>Follow public health guidance for all Alert Levels:*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staying informed and being prepared to follow public health advice. • Practicing good hygiene (wash your hands, avoid touching your face, cough and sneeze into your sleeve or a tissue). • Maintaining a physical distance of at least 2 arm lengths. Use a non-medical or cloth mask when physical distancing cannot be maintained. • Frequent cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surfaces. • Staying at home and away from others when you are sick, unless it is to get medical attention. • Wearing a non-medical or cloth mask if you have symptoms when going out to access health care services. • Working from home, where possible. • Continuing to shop online and using curbside pickup, where possible. • Limiting non-essential travel in and outside of the province. • Keeping a log of when you go out in public and your interactions with others. <p>*NOTE: Any changes to these public health guidelines will be available here: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/alert-system/public-health-guidance-for-all-alert-levels/</p> <p>For a listing of the COVID-19 municipal circulars: https://www.mae.gov.nl.ca/for/covid-19_local_gov_ops.html</p>	
Level 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A household could expand their household bubble to include one other household. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alert Level 5 is the highest level with broad sweeping public health measures to protect the population. Public Health Orders are in place.

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	<p>Public Spaces and Gatherings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gatherings are restricted to 5 people or less. • Funerals, wakes and visitations are prohibited. <p>Recreational Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campsites are closed. • Outdoor playgrounds and equipment can be used, where owner/operators allow. • Gym and fitness facilities are closed, including yoga studios, tennis and squash facilities, and arenas. • Dance studios and performance spaces are closed. • Outdoor activities, including walking, hiking, or riding your bike, are encouraged as long as physical distancing can be maintained and you are not required to self-isolate for any reason <p>Health Care Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private health care clinics are closed, except for urgent and emergent care • Visitor restrictions in health care are in place. • Orders in place for long term care, personal care homes, and assisted living facilities. • Regional Health Authorities have postponed or cancelled health care services. • Non-urgent medical procedures and elective surgeries are postponed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public health officials are advising that travel within the province be restricted to <u>essential travel only</u>. <p>Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Governments have a legislative obligation to hold a minimum number of public council meetings. Therefore, they should make every effort to conduct their public meetings online or by phone. • Options for public meetings include live streaming, video conferencing or teleconferencing processes, thereby avoiding physical attendance. • Minutes must be completed for each public meeting. • Examples of video conferencing include Facebook Live, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Skype, Webex and Go To Meeting. • Local governments can also contact their respective service provider for teleconferencing access. • Local governments may choose which process to use, provided the public is given an opportunity to call in to the meeting and to listen to the proceedings. • By-Elections deferred until further notice. <p>Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local governments focus on critical operations / essential services identified by the municipality and continue practice physical distancing and avoid gatherings of people. • Essential services may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ water and sewage systems; ○ private roads; ○ Construction of public highways, sidewalks and bridges; ○ parking lots; ○ lighting; ○ name and numbering of streets/buildings; ○ waste collection/removal;

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	<p>Businesses and Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retail stores that do not provide services essential to life, health or personal safety of individuals and animals are closed to in-person services but can offer online/telephone sales with delivery or curbside pick-up options. • Sales of scratch or break open lotto tickets in store is prohibited. • Restaurants are closed for in-person dining (take-out, delivery and drive-thru options are still permitted). • Bars, lounges and cinemas are closed. • Cinemas a closed. • Personal service establishments including spas, esthetic services, hair salons, body piercing, tattooing and tanning salons, are closed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ fire protection; ○ public transportation system; ○ cemeteries/crematoria; ○ snow clearing/maintenance of roads; ○ animal control; administrative services; ○ financial management; ○ economic development; ○ municipal planning; engineering. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit business-related visitors to essential services only. This may include tradespeople, pest control or compliance officers. Schedule visits and implementation of outside queuing is recommended, and consider requiring visits to wear cloth masks. • NL has permitted household construction to continue. • Outdoor activities, including walking, hiking, or riding your bike, are encouraged as long as physical distancing can be maintained and you are not required to self-isolate for any reason. • Public markets are permitted. Public markets provide services essential to life; therefore, capacity is limited only by the number of people that can adhere to social distancing and does not exceed the maximum occupancy rate of the location. <p>Employer Responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance on PPE for employers can be found here: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/files/Guidance-on-Personal-Protective-Equipment-PPE-for-Employers.pdf • The following memo provides guidance to fire departments: https://www.mae.gov.nl.ca/for/pdf/Memo_Fire_Departments_COVID-19.pdf

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplaces are exempt from the limitations on the number of people in gatherings; however, physical distancing of two metres between individuals should be maintained as much as possible. Operations may need to be altered or postponed to maintain physical distancing. • It is preferable to have employees work from home, if possible. Only those who need to be physically present should come into the workplace and employees are encouraged to wear cloth facemasks. Conduct business remotely (e.g., conference calls, video conferences, email), whenever possible. • Evaluate employee health when they start work. Sick employees should go home and call 811. • Refer to COVID-19 Workplace Information here: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/files/Guidance-for-Workplaces.pdf
Level 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People could consider further expanding their double bubble by six more people. https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/individuals-and-households/expansion-of-household-bubble/ <p>Public Spaces and Gatherings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gatherings expanded to 10 people. • Visitations and wakes remain prohibited. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Alert Level 4, our focus is to begin relaxing public health measures to allow more social and business activities, while minimizing the risk of outbreaks. • Under this Alert Level, public health officials are advising that travel within the province be restricted to <u>essential travel only</u>. However, provincial ferry passengers will no longer be restricted to only essential travelers. The Province encourages ferry users to travel as infrequently as possible. <p>Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under Alert Level 4, councils may hold an in-person public council meeting provided the facility used can adhere to social distancing guidelines and the number attending is limited to a maximum of 10, including staff, media and members of the general public.

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	<p>Recreational Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational angling and hunting are permitted. • Golf courses can open with restrictions in place. https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/files/Golf-Course-Guidelines-May-8-2020.pdf • Outdoor tennis can resume, with restrictions https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/guidance-for-outdoor-tennis/ • Municipal parks can open. https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/guidance-for-parks/ • Gym and fitness facilities, yoga studios, squash facilities, indoor tennis facilities, arenas, dance studios and performance spaces remain closed. • Outdoor activities, including walking, hiking, or riding your bike, are encouraged as long as physical distancing can be maintained and you are not required to self-isolate for any reason. <p>Health Care Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional health authorities will begin to allow some health care services to resume. • Private health care clinics remain closed, except for urgent and emergent care, with virtual care options available for non-urgent care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council must ensure that citizens who are unable to attend the meeting are provided access to the proceeding. This can include video conferencing and/or teleconferencing. The public should be notified of such meetings and advised of the procedure to attend the meeting virtually or by telephone. • By-elections will continue to be deferred until further notice. <p>Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household waste collection, recycling, and bulk waste are permitted to continue as long as public health requirements are met. • Parks will be permitted to open with limited individual activities for which physical distancing can be maintained. Guidance on parks can be found here: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/guidance-for-parks/ • Community Gardens can open https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/files/COVID-19-Community-Gardens-FAQs.pdf • Beaches and trails/boardwalks are permitted to open, as long as the required distancing is maintained and signage is in place, where appropriate. • Dog parks are permitted to open, with restrictions including limiting the number of people in the parks at any point in time to permit appropriate physical distancing. • Playground equipment in municipal parks is not to be used. • Dumping stations for septic waste are permitted to open, provided appropriate health guidelines are followed.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All visitor restrictions in health care remain in place. • Orders for long term care, personal care homes, and assisted living facilities remain in place. <p>Businesses and Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of some daycare operations. • Professional services such as accounting firms, law firms, and financial services can offer in-person services. Work from home policies are encouraged, where possible. • In-person worker and workplace safety training will be permitted (e.g. Standard First Aid, Basic Safety Training, food safety, etc.). • Gardening centres can open for in-person sales and service. • Landscaping and lawn care services can operate. • Animal daycares can resume operations. • Animal grooming can resume. • Retail stores that do not offer essential services, bars and lounges, cinemas, and personal service establishments remain closed. • Restaurants remain closed for in-person dining. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campgrounds otherwise remain closed. Furthermore, due to the social interactions and gatherings that accompany camping activities and that social distancing precautions may be difficult to maintain, it is not recommended that camping in any form occur at this time. • Fire Departments can resume in-house training. Guidance for Fire Departments under Alert Level 4: https://www.gov.nl.ca/mae/files/Alert-Level-4-Fire-Department-Adjustment-Guidance.pdf • Motorcades are permissible, provided health guidelines are followed https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/individuals-and-households/guidance-on-motorcades/. However, parades involving First Responders are not permitted under this Alert Level. <p>Other Activities/services not permitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All in-park food and beverage services. • Activities that require contact, including team sports (football, basketball, hockey, soccer, volleyball, etc.). • All recreational facilities within the park must remain closed (swimming pools, picnic areas, playgrounds, etc.). • All community events. • All public services, such as interpretation services, children’s programming and community-based programming. • Arenas remain closed. • Marina facilities (i.e. clubhouses) where people congregate are not permitted to open (except washroom facilities); however, boat launches are permitted to open. <p>Employer Responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to follow the public health guidelines.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sheets for businesses and workplaces (refer to Alert Level 4) can be found here: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/. Business supports can be found here: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/business-supports/
Level 3	<p>Public Spaces and Gatherings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gatherings are expanded to 20 people with physical distancing. Visitations and wakes remain prohibited. <p>Recreational Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campsites are permitted to open with restrictions on public spaces. Summer day camps can operate. Medium-risk outdoor recreational activities can resume (e.g., team field sports). Spectators must maintain physical distancing. Outdoor pools can operate with a limited number of people. Playground equipment in municipal parks is not to be used. Gym and fitness facilities, yoga studios, tennis and squash facilities, arenas, dance studios and performance spaces remain closed. <p>Health Care Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private health care clinics can reopen in accordance with guidelines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Alert Level 3, our focus is to control transmission while further relaxing public health measures. <p>Governance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to use governance processes identified under Alert Level 4. The recommendation is to keep gatherings to 20 or fewer people while maintaining physical distancing. In addition, if possible, the preference is not to meet in person, but to continue to use technology to meet virtually, to avoid gatherings as much as possible. <p>Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As noted above, a further opening of public spaces and the expansion of gatherings to a maximum of twenty (20) people. In Alert Level 3, provincial, municipal and private campgrounds are permitted to open for limited overnight camping, with restrictions: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/guidance-for-campgrounds/ Summer day camps can operate, with restrictions: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/guidance-for-summer-day-camps/

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional health authorities will continue to allow some health care services to resume. • All visitor restrictions in health care remain in place. • Orders for long term care, personal care homes, and assisted living facilities remain in place. <p>Businesses and Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retail stores, including those in shopping malls, can open with restrictions. • Scratch and break open • lotto ticket sales can resume. • Personal service establishments can open in accordance with guidelines. • Animal grooming facilities can resume operations. • Further expansion of daycare operations. https://www.gov.nl.ca/eecd/eecd-covid-19-child-care-information/covid-19-child-care-operations-policy/ • Restaurants can re-open at reduced occupancy; buffets remain prohibited. • Bars, lounges and cinemas remain closed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium-risk outdoor recreational activities can resume (e.g., team field sports), spectators must maintain physical distancing: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/sport-guidance/ https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/outdoor-recreation-activities/ • Outdoor pools can operate with a limited number of people: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/outdoor-swimming-pools/ • Rental Cabins and Cottages can operate as per the following: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/rental-cabins-and-cottages/ • Public markets can continue as per the following: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/public-markets/ • Community Museums and Historic Sites can operate as per the following: https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/community-museums-and-historic-sites/ • Playground equipment in municipal parks is not to be used. <p>Employer Responsibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to follow the public health guidelines. • Guidance for businesses and workplaces (Refer to Alert Level 3): https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/information-sheets-for-businesses-and-workplaces/

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Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People can move about more. Those at higher risk of complications due to COVID-19 should stay at home as much as possible, except to get essentials like groceries and medications. <p>Public Spaces and Gatherings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion on size of gatherings to be determined. • Places of worship are permitted to resume operations. <p>Recreational Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gyms and fitness facilities are permitted to open. • Arenas can open. • Indoor pools can open. • Campsites are permitted to offer overnight stays with some restrictions in place for public spaces. • Playgrounds equipment can be used. • Regional health authorities will continue to allow some health care services to resume. • All visitor restrictions in health care remain in place. • Orders for long term care, personal care homes, and assisted living facilities remain in place. • Bars and lounges are permitted to open with reduced occupancy. • Indoor entertainment facilities can reopen with reduced occupancy (e.g. bingo halls, cinemas). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Alert Level 2, the focus is to control transmission while maintaining health system capacity throughout further re-opening of social and business activities. <p>Governance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further details on governance will be released as the province approaches Alert Level 2. <p>Services:</p> <p>A further expansion on the size of gatherings to be determined including funerals and weddings. In addition, places of worship are permitted to resume operations with restrictions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gyms and fitness facilities are permitted to open, with restrictions; • Arenas can open, with restrictions; • Indoor pools can open, however some restrictions may apply; • Campsites are permitted to offer overnight stays with some restrictions in place for public spaces; and • Playgrounds equipment can be used. <p>Employer Responsibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 2 guidance for businesses and workplaces will be released at a later date.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-opening of performance spaces to be determined. 	
Level 1	<p>Lifting long-term public health measures will depend on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of transmission patterns of COVID-19; • Availability of an effective vaccine and/or treatment; and • A strong public health system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alert Level 1 is the new normal. There will still be restrictions in place at this level (To be determined at a later date).

For trusted information on COVID-19, please visit

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/>

NLife WITH **COVID-19**