

# Reopening Nova Scotia

Masks mandatory in indoor public places

*July 28, 2020*

*Session will begin shortly.....*

# Reopening Nova Scotia

- ▶ Most businesses are now allowed be open, operating with reopening plans
- ▶ Physical distancing continues
- ▶ Gathering limits have increased
- ▶ Atlantic Bubble in effect
- ▶ Mandatory non-medical masks:
  - ▶ Public transportation effective July 24
  - ▶ Indoor public places effective July 31

# Masks in indoor public places

- ▶ retail businesses and shopping centres
- ▶ personal services businesses such as a hair and nail salons, spas, body art facilities, except during services that require removing a mask
- ▶ restaurants and bars, except while you are eating or drinking
- ▶ places of worship or faith gatherings
- ▶ places for cultural or entertainment services or activities such as movie theatres, concerts, and other performances
- ▶ places for sports and recreational activities such as a gym, pool, or indoor tennis facility, except during an activity where a mask cannot be worn

# Masks in indoor public places

- ▶ places for events such as conferences and receptions
- ▶ municipal or provincial government locations offering services to the public
- ▶ common areas of tourist accommodations such as lobbies, elevators and hallways
- ▶ common areas of office buildings such as lobbies, elevators and hallways, but not private offices or apartment/condo buildings
- ▶ public areas of a university or college campus such as library, student union building or common areas of a faculty building, but not classrooms, labs, offices or residences
- ▶ train or bus stations, ferry terminals, and airports

# Exemptions

- ▶ Children under 2, or age 2 to 4 if they can not be persuaded
- ▶ Medical condition
- ▶ Receiving care/service or participating in an activity that's not possible with a mask
- ▶ In courtroom, jury room or secured area in a courthouse
- ▶ Can be removed for identification or ceremonial purposes
- ▶ Can be removed to eat/drink at a restaurant or bar, or other public location where food or beverages are served

# Enforcement

- ▶ Confident that most Nova Scotians will wear a mask
- ▶ There is no 'exemption certificate'
- ▶ Businesses have the right to refuse entry or services
- ▶ Businesses, workplaces can develop their own policies for private spaces
- ▶ Concerns should be directed first to owners and then to the Safety Division of the Department of Labour and Advanced Education

# Mask supplies

- ▶ Nova Scotians are asked to use their own masks as much as possible
- ▶ Government will help with supplies of masks for people who can't bring their own
- ▶ Businesses can offer masks to customers if they wish
  - ▶ Government has limited supply to help businesses with this

# Resources

- ▶ Stay informed about changes:
  - ▶ news releases and media briefings available via [novascotia.ca/coronavirus](https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus)
  - ▶ Email [NSEconomy@novascotia.ca](mailto:NSEconomy@novascotia.ca) if you have questions
  - ▶ Email [COVID19INFO@novascotia.ca](mailto:COVID19INFO@novascotia.ca) to be added to distribution for stakeholder updates



## Q&A

- ▶ Are there health risks to wearing a mask?
- ▶ What if there is an existing approved sector plan that says masks do not need to be worn?
- ▶ What about live entertainment/performers?
- ▶ What if barriers have already been installed or you are 6 feet away from another person / audience?
- ▶ Will wearing masks in public spaces means physical distancing requirements will be relaxed?