



WEEKLY SANE-ITIZER

Helpful information for Not-for-Profits, Individuals and Businesses during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Ten Things We May See as Part of the New Normal

by Samina Malik Smith, GPVSB Capacity Development Manager

Whether we like the term or not, we are now in a new version of our reality. With the restrictions on quarantine slowly beginning to lift, the new normal seems part of what we have been doing. In exploring further, I quickly realized how many areas of our lives have continued to be affected.

1. Social distancing will be here to stay
2. Wearing a protective mask or personal protective wear (PPE) wherever you go
3. Handshakes will be a thing of the past
4. Marked line-up's or queues outside a building or establishment
5. Competitive sports played in empty stadiums (hockey, basketball, football, soccer)
6. No larger crowded events (festivals/ concerts/shows/parades)
7. Lower student to teacher ratios in schools with modified work plans
8. Mandatory handwashing and/or sanitizing before entering a premise
9. Doctor and dentist appointments via video conferencing ('remote care')
10. Temperature-checks before boarding a domestic and/or international flight

After reading all the opinions, views and outlooks no one knows for sure how long we will be in this new place. The shared message from those that provide us with guidelines is that the more precautions we take together as individuals in our communities the better our future looks in stopping the spread of the virus. We really are staying apart to eventually come together.



How to be friendly while wearing a mask



The Employer's Kitchen

– *creating ideas just for you!*

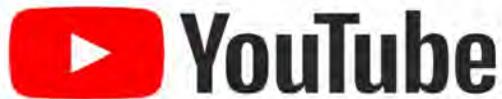
Ah, the 'New Normal'. The very term is weird, falls in the category of 'orange is the new black' kind of thing. As humans we tend to take comfort by putting a name to shared experiences and disasters, it's a long-time practice, going back centuries. After all, who was it that said 'a rose by any other name....'?

Whatever we want to call it, as an employer the challenge is to get up and running with some semblance of past normalcy and at the same time **operating in a whole 'nother universe**: Plexiglas surrounding reception desks and in between workstations outrageous prices on disposable gloves and paper face masks: Disinfectant spray or wipes – good luck finding those! Cleaning solutions and stations as potential tripping hazards: Can you have a meeting or do you continue with teleconferencing nightmares? How many people can you let in, keep in, ask to leave? Do you offer coffee or hand sanitizer? I could continue.....

And then there are the temporary changes to Employment Standards that if you haven't looked at them you really should before you run completely amok. There are a number of significant changes. Find Alberta's at <https://www.alberta.ca/temporary-workplace-rule-changes.aspx>. A recommendation: print these and staple them to the front of your Human Resource Policy Manual. Incorporating them right into your current policies will take time and work, and they will probably change a few times before this is over.

We are also in a whole new era of staff development and training. Never mind a skill set that includes, critical thinking, communication, time management, now you need to focus on training your staff on the correct method of wearing a mask, sanitizing their workstations and how to access and purchase toilet paper.

At the end of the day 'Normal', new or not is a long way off. CAP



Video is a great way to connect with the public and build awareness here are 5 fundamentals for making social impact on YouTube.

(source: <https://socialimpact.youtube.com/how-to/>)

Shareability

Make sure people will pass along your videos to a network of supporters. Be relatable by telling your story in the most accessible way possible. Be topical by including something everyone is currently talking about in your story. And be valuable by providing practical value in your story.

Discoverability

Make sure your video rises to the top of search results. Craft your story in a way that references trending topics and "evergreen" content like how-tos and tutorials. That way, when popular topics create increased traffic to the site, your video can be found as a "related video."

Consistency

Posting your videos frequently and on a regular schedule helps viewers who love your content continue to connect with your cause. Using a consistent format, topic, and/or personality for your videos also helps build a loyal subscriber base that comes back looking for more ways to support your mission.

Community

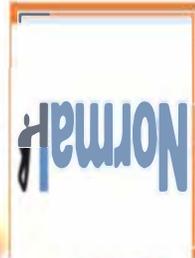
Start a dialogue with a community of viewers. In your videos, speak directly to your audience and prompt them with questions. For example, ask them to respond in the comments section with their ideas or experiences and use those responses as elements in future videos.

Sustainability

Maintain the attention of your audience by creating an easily repeatable series. "Big-splash" videos can drive a lot of traffic to your channel, but it's a good idea to support your high-profile projects with other, easier-to-make videos that can hold your audience's attention between the bigger efforts.



start



You didn't implement prevention policies. Go ahead 3 spaces,

Your staff have tested positive for virus. Go Back 1 Space

Decreased Revenue. Lay off 50% of your staff. Go back 1 Space



You scored a roll of toilet paper. Move ahead 1 space



You have completed 999 work related surveys. Go ahead 2 spaces



go back to start

How to Play the

COVID-19 Game,,

Make the rules up as you go!

COVID-19 Game

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA TEMPLATE FOR RELAUNCH:

As part of your plans to reopen your business, you may wish to share how you are reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among your staff and customers.

The template includes considerations to help guide you as you plan to open. This should be completed using [Alberta's Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#), which provides general guidance applicable to all sectors; as well as sector-specific guidelines available on [Alberta Biz Connect](#) and any additional requirements of your business or sector association.

Guidelines:

Distancing Measures – Refer to page 8

Considerations: How will you ensure people maintain 2 metres between each other? Do you need to maintain directional traffic flow? How would you limit congregating (e.g., in break rooms, communal spaces, rest areas, etc.)? How will you limit the overall number of people in your space? Refer to the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) section to mitigate the risk of transmission when 2 metre distancing cannot be maintained.

Cleaning – Refer to pages 5-6

Considerations: How will cleaning on high touch surfaces be maintained in your location (e.g., bathroom, chairs, doorknobs, break rooms)? How will you train and ensure workers or volunteers keep equipment clean? If you are a business, how will work surfaces, order screens, debit machines and cash registers be cleaned?

Screening for Symptoms - Refer to page 4

Considerations: How will you be aware of symptoms in staff, customers, congregants or volunteers, such as fever, sore throat, cough, runny nose or difficulty breathing? Have you provided education or communication of self-monitoring of symptoms? Have you identified a space where staff or volunteers can be separated from others if they develop symptoms? Have you considered what you would do if you see increased absenteeism due to illness or isolation requirements? Have you considered absenteeism policies that encourage staff members or volunteers to stay home when ill, in quarantine (self-isolation), or if they are taking care of children or someone who is ill? Are you maintaining a log of staff or volunteer attendance? What is your response plan for staff who come to work with symptoms?

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Refer to pages 6-7, Appendix C

Considerations: How will you promote PPE use (e.g., masks or gloves) when people are unable to be 2 metres apart? If 2 metres cannot be maintained and PPE is necessary, where would you obtain it? Have you considered installing physical barriers (e.g., acrylic plastic window or high-walled cubicle) to reduce exposure when 2-metre distancing is hard to maintain?

Responsibilities

Considerations: Who will be responsible for ensuring staff, customers, congregants and volunteers are following your precautions? Have you updated contact information for staff and volunteers so that they can be notified in the event of a known exposure? What would your approach be if you had to manage a situation where there was apparent non-compliance with your plans/direction?



What the new normal will look like ...

The Prairie Mall after Covid-19 restrictions lifted on May 14th - Images by Paulette Seniantha

What people plan to do at work when restrictions are lifted



40%

will avoid handshakes, hugs & kisses



31%

limit time spent in meetings



29%

plan to work more from home



... and in daily life

- 45% stay home at the first sign of illness
- 38% be more budget conscious
- 33% limit visits to the supermarket
- 30% do more online shopping
- 29% limit time in public places

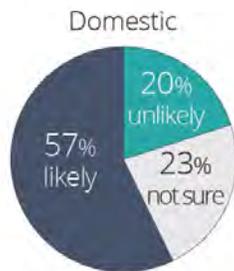
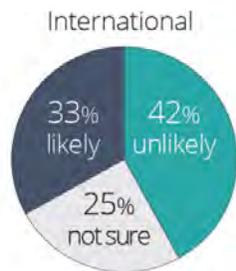
What will stay the same



67%

will keep washing their hands frequently

Likelihood of people travelling when restrictions are lifted

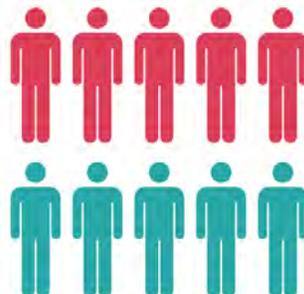


Positive things to come out of the restrictions

1/3 have thought about what they want out of life

50% have got things done around the house

Half are more grateful for what they have



When this is all over, please continue to stay at least 6 feet away from me.

In Our New COVID-19 World, What Will The New Normal Be?

“The new normal, when we get there, is not the one that is the same as before.” - Dr. Theresa Tam



“These past weeks have made the words of millions of kids ring true as they shout from the back seat, ‘Are we there yet?’” Dr. Theresa Tam said. “I think I speak for all of us when I say we have never felt more like that kid ... we can’t let go of the wheel yet.”

Here are some things that will change back to normal in the coming months — and some that will never be the same.

Services and work

How quickly various businesses and services come back will depend on what was closed in the first place, and which are deemed most essential. Public health officials across Canada have said restrictions will be lifted as the daily increase in COVID-19 cases continues to stabilize or even go down

Expect reopening restaurants to have tables more spaced out, or limited reservations. Hair and nail salons could be subject to extended health and safety guidelines. And many of the same limitations we see in businesses that are still open — such as Plexiglas dividers for cashiers or denoted lines to maintain social distancing — will likely come into play in reopening businesses.

Schools

As these businesses reopen, schools and daycares reopening will have to coincide so workers’ kids have somewhere to go. That’s why you’ll likely see elementary schools open up first, followed by high schools and universities.

When schools do reopen, some provinces are considering phased or partial reopening.

Mass gatherings

Don’t expect everything to come back soon. Large events with lots of people are still off the table for now, simply because of how quickly the virus can spread and a new outbreak can occur.

While specific numbers on how big a group can be vary across Canada — some provinces say 10, some say 15, others say 20 — we’ve already seen that reality reflected in the cancellation of events across Canada

So don’t hope to pack into a crowded movie theatre for the latest blockbuster premiere this summer or go partying at a busy nightclub.

Our cities

University of British Columbia professor Patrick Condon says the pandemic has already shifted how we interact with the space around us in our cities — and that may be permanent.

“Suddenly the sidewalk seems very much too small,” he told HuffPost. “And every one that we meet might be lethal to us. Things that seemed normal, like a narrow sidewalk in the past, now seem ridiculous.”

Travel

Earlier this month, Transport Canada announced requirements that all air passengers wear a mask or face covering while flying. Don’t expect that restriction to go away any time soon.

On Monday, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau indicated there weren’t any immediate plans to close provincial borders as some provinces reopen and others stay partially locked down.

But many travel restrictions will still be in place. Don’t expect the Canada-U.S. border to reopen right away, and when it does there will likely be strict screening in both directions.



**Why did the can crusher quiet his job?
Because it was soda pressing!**

**Yesterday I saw a guy spill all his
Scrabble letters on the road.**

**I asked him, "What's the word on the
street?"**





Helpful Links for your Organization:

- <https://www.alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx>
- <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html#businesses>
- <https://www.canadianbusinessresiliencenetwork.ca/>
- <https://www.gprep.ca/business-relaunch/>
- <https://www.grandeprairiechamber.com/covid-19-business-resiliency/>
- <https://avail.gp/>



 **THE Grande Prairie Volunteer Services Bureau CAN HELP NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

RENEW
strategic plans
REVAMP
business plans
REFRESH OR REWRITE
policies

For information & pricing call 780-538-2727
or email info@volunteergp.com

 **Grande Prairie Volunteer Services Bureau**

**OUR OFFICE IS CURRENTLY
OPEN BY APPOINTMENT
ONLY**

**For more information and to make
an appointment contact us at
780-538- 2727 or email
info@volunteergp.com.**