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COMPANY DETAILS

Company Name: Burlington Performing Arts Centre (BPAC)
Date Completed: August 10, 2021
Date Distributed: August 11, 2021
Revision Date: **March 1, 2022**

OVERVIEW

COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death, especially to senior citizens and individuals with underlying medical conditions. Participants and patrons must comply with all posted instructions and understand and assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19. Due to the nature of COVID-19 restrictions, this information is subject to change with little notice.

'Participant' includes all individuals at the facility as part of an event team (staff, volunteers, performers, crew), and excludes Burlington Performing Arts Centre staff. 'Patrons' includes all members of the public who have purchased a ticket and attending a performance.

BPAC is working in accordance with the provincial regulations [O. Reg. 364/20 Rules for Areas in Step 3](#) and the [Roadmap to Reopen Framework](#) which outlines how current guidelines are being applied in Performing Arts facilities.

BPAC is currently open for live in person events at full capacity.

COVID-19 AWARENESS

- COVID-19 primarily spreads through the direct contact with the larger respiratory droplets from someone who is infected with the virus, through breathing, speaking, coughing, sneezing, singing, etc.
- It can also be transmitted by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching one's own mouth, nose, or eyes.
- COVID-19 may also be transmitted through smaller respiratory droplets that can travel over longer distances and remain in the air for longer periods (airborne transmission).
- COVID-19 does not pass through unbroken skin or any material that is impermeable to water.
- Fully vaccinated people who might have been in contact with a confirmed case are required to self-isolate for 5 days.
- Infections can spread from symptomatic or asymptomatic cases, as well as for 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms.
- Fully vaccinated people with COVID-19 can be infectious from 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms until the 5th day following the onset of symptoms (or longer, where the symptoms are more severe or where the person's immune system is compromised).
- The risk of transmission of infection can be reduced by taking appropriate precautions

MANDATORY VACCINATIONS

As of March 1, 2022, mandatory proof of vaccination requirements have been lifted by the province. BPAC will no longer require proof of vaccination prior to entering the facility.

CONTROL MEASURES

All staff, participants, patrons and guests are required to comply with all COVID-19 control measures set in place by the BPAC. These controls include:

PATRONS

All Patrons entering BPAC must always wear a mask unless eating or drinking. Hygiene protocols combined with the availability of hand washing or sanitizing will help mitigate contamination from the virus.

Active Screening

- BPAC staff or volunteers will screen each patron prior to entering the facility. Patrons should not attempt to come to the facility if answering 'Yes' to any of the following questions:
 - Do you currently have one or more of the COVID-19 symptoms below that are new or worsening?
 - Fever or chills
 - Shortness of breath
 - Cough or barking cough
 - Sore throat, trouble swallowing
 - Runny nose/ stuffy nose or nasal congestion
 - Decrease or loss of smell or taste
 - Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain
 - Extreme tiredness, sore muscles
 - Pink eye or Headache
 - Frequent or unusual falling down
 - Has a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit told you that you should currently be isolating (staying at home)?
 - Do you live with someone who has been told by a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit that they should currently be isolating?
- Signage will be posted throughout the facility reminding patrons and staff about the control measures in place as well as current capacity limits.

Masks/Face Coverings

In accordance with City of Burlington [By-Law No.47-20](#) and provincial recommendations, masks or face coverings must be worn in all indoor spaces, including, elevators, lobby and theatre venues. Masks or face coverings can only be removed while eating or drinking, rehearsing or performing. Masks/face coverings for participants are not provided by the BPAC.

Food & Beverage

As of *February 17th, 2022*, food and drink services are permitted at indoor sporting events, concert venues, theatres and cinemas, bingo halls and other gaming establishments, and horse racing tracks, car racing tracks, and other similar venues.

Capacity

Capacity limits are determined by current provincial regulations. As of February 17th, 2022, BPAC is working with capacity limits in the [O. Reg. 364/20 Rules for Areas in Step 3](#). BPAC is currently operating at 100% capacity.

Physical Distancing

In settings where full vaccinations are mandatory, the requirement for individuals to maintain two (2) meters or six (6) feet of physical distancing has been removed while they are wearing a mask, with limited exceptions.

PARTICIPANTS

All participants are required to comply with the following COVID-19 control measures. Participants who appear to have symptoms upon arrival at Performing Arts facilities, or who become sick while onsite will be told to leave immediately.

Active Screening

- BPAC staff or volunteers will screen each participant prior to arriving at the facility. Participants should not attempt to come to the facility if answering 'Yes' to any of the following questions:
 - Do you currently have one or more of the COVID-19 symptoms below that are new or worsening?
 - Fever or chills
 - Shortness of breath
 - Cough or barking cough
 - Sore throat, trouble swallowing
 - Runny nose/ stuffy nose or nasal congestion
 - Decrease or loss of smell or taste
 - Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain
 - Extreme tiredness, sore muscles
 - Pink eye o Headache
 - Frequent or unusual falling down
 - Has a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit told you that you should currently be isolating (staying at home)?
 - Do you live with someone who has been told by a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit that they should currently be isolating?

Arrival & Departure

Based on event details, BPAC will work with participants to provide:

- Arrival times
- Designated space(s) and corresponding capacity
- Applicable maps and layouts

Entry to the facility is not possible prior to the scheduled entry time, or at any other time not previously scheduled. If participants do not arrive at the scheduled time, the time allotted may be reduced.

Masks/Face Coverings

In accordance with City of Burlington [By-Law No.47-20](#) and provincial recommendations, masks or face coverings must be worn in all indoor spaces, including, elevators, lobby and theatre venues. Masks or face coverings can only be removed while eating or drinking, rehearsing or performing. Masks/face coverings for participants are not provided by the BPAC.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Any show-related items brought by participants or third-party vendors must be disinfected prior to entering the facility and handled by the participants. If BPAC staff are required to handle equipment, arrangements must be made in advance. Non-essential personal items must remain outside the facility.

Equipment

Whenever possible, participants should provide their own backline and microphones

Security

Security will be scheduled based on event requirements, as determined by BPAC.

Capacity

The capacity for any room or space within the facility may be less than the maximum provincially mandated capacity for an event to ensure that all physical distancing and safety measures are followed. This capacity may also vary depending on the event-specific configuration. As such, only people essential to the operation of the event are allowed in the facility.

Physical Distancing

Participants must maintain a physical distance of at least two (2) meters or six (6) feet from each other, except for:

- The purposes of the performance or rehearsal
- The purposes of health and safety

BPAC STAFF

Staff who are onsite, as well as those who are working remotely must adhere to all safety measures described in this document.

SCREENING FOR COVID-19

BPAC has established requirements for both self-screening and active screening to ensure that employees commit to a daily practice of screening to protect themselves and others. Screening questions are determined by provincial and federal authorities.

Management is required to inform employees of the screening requirements. Employees reporting to work are required to participate in active screening by reading the COVID-19 Screening questions and signing in on the COVID-19 Screening Form located at the Stage Door entrance. Alternatively, the [Burlington Screening Tool](#) for employees and workers can be used prior to arriving at the facility. Once the screening is complete, BPAC staff will forward the results to the Operations Manager. Employees who do not participate in active screening may not enter the workplace until the screening has been completed.

CONTROLLING THE RISK OF TRANSMISSION

Physical Distancing

Everyone should exercise physical distancing of at least two (2) metres or six (6) feet whenever and wherever possible—with employees, customers, visitors and contractors. Additionally, BPAC may alter the workspace to help employees maintain physical distance from each other and from the public, as needed.

Public Facing Counter Barriers

Public facing service delivery counters have acrylic separation barriers installed to ensure there is separation between employees and customers. The barrier provides a layer of defense against the potential risk of exposure to COVID-19.

Masks/Face Coverings

To help ensure the health and safety of employees and the workplace, masks/face coverings are provided to each employee, and must be worn in indoor public spaces that are openly accessible by the public in accordance with City of Burlington [By-Law No.47-20](#), provincial recommendations. Leaders are required to provide information and instruction for the proper use, maintenance and disposal of masks/face coverings to employees. Employees are required to read and understand the information. Face coverings can be removed while eating or drinking.

A medical-grade mask must be worn for the duration of the work day, for employees who are unable to maintain physical distance of at least two (2) metres or six (6) feet from individuals *without* a mask or face covering during their work, and similar to previous mandatory masking policies, must cover their nose, mouth, and chin.

Eye Protection

Eye protection must be worn for employees who are unable to maintain physical distance of at least two (2) metres or six (6) feet from individuals *without* a mask or face covering during the course of their work. Eye protection must always be worn with a medical-grade mask. Eye protection may include any of the following:

- Face shield
- Safety glasses with side shields or foam gasket
- Goggles

Hand Hygiene

All employees must practice good hand hygiene, including routine hand washing with soap and water, and the use of hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizing stations are available throughout facility, including at entrances, lobbies, exterior washroom areas, elevator lobbies, boardrooms, lunchrooms and kitchenettes. Hand sanitizer has a minimum 60% alcohol-based formulation that is proven to kill 99.9% of germs and is fragrance-free.

Communication and Signage

BPAC provides regular updates on COVID-19 to all staff online, by email and in person. BPAC has created signage that is placed in the workplace to raise awareness, remind employees of the potential risks of exposure to COVID-19, and list the measures that are necessary to stop its spread, such as:

- Signs and symptoms of COVID-19
- Promote proper hand and cough/sneeze hygiene practices
- How to self-screen
- Mandatory face coverings

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Standard cleaning and disinfecting procedures and checklists have been established to reduce the risk of potential exposure to COVID-19. High frequency touch points in common areas (e.g. doorknobs, handrails, elevator buttons, washrooms, lunchrooms, dressing rooms) are cleaned multiple times per day. Employees responsible for cleaning and disinfecting have been trained on procedures using sanitizing wipes and disinfectant sprays.

Shared Workspaces

Employees are discouraged from using each other's workstations, keyboards, phones, offices, or other work tools and equipment, when possible. Where workstations, work tools, or equipment are shared (e.g. customer service counters, cash registers, hand tools), they are cleaned and disinfected before and after use by the user.

EXPOSURE TO COVID-19

Employees who become sick during the day must be separated from others and sent home. If arrangements are required for the employee to be transported home, they must be kept in an isolated area until arrangements are made.

When an individual is diagnosed with COVID-19 or have symptoms, they must not report to work and must self-isolate immediately. Isolation can end after five days only if symptoms have improved for at least 24 hours, and all public health and safety measures, such as masking and physical distancing, are followed. If you live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive, you must isolate for the same amount of time as a positive case.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Processes and Training

Procedures and Guideline must be updated or developed to include the appropriate practices during COVID-19, including:

- Education and training for all employees on COVID-19 related policies, guidelines and SOPs
- Alternate or flexible work arrangements
- Records and/or logs of all non BPAC employees visiting or working at the facility
- Privacy protection for BPAC staff and/or third parties
- Regular audits for compliance/adherence to protocols
- Ongoing maintenance and inspections
- Regular review and updates of policies and procedures to ensure compliance with legislative requirements

Health and Well-being

BPAC is committed to supporting all staff to prioritize their and others' health and wellbeing during the return to work. This may include support through the Employee Family and Assistant Program or finding alternative work arrangements.

ONGOING EVALUATION

- Ensure continued success by performing regular reviews and updates of
 - Policies and procedures
 - Training programs
 - Regulation changes and announcements from government and health authorities

- A dedicated project team meets regularly to:
 - Provide updates
 - Discuss challenges
 - Identify required changes
- Staff meets regularly to discuss onsite schedule and provide departmental updates
- Staff are encouraged to:
 - Provide feedback on the efficiency and effectiveness of operations
 - Identify resources that are running low or lacking
 - Identify issues with personal protective equipment and safety measures

RESOURCES

- [Covid-19 Ontario.ca/self-assessment/](https://www.covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/)
- [O. Reg. 263/20 Rules for Areas in Step 2](#)
- [O. Reg. 364/20 Rules for Areas in Step 3](#)
- [Roadmap to Reopen Framework](#)
- [City of Burlington By-Law No.47-20](#)
- [Burlington Screening Tool](#)