

COVID-19 Safety Plan for Snowshoe School Groups

Mt Seymour's Outdoor Education department have been working diligently to adapt our snowshoe programming and operational plans to meet or exceed the health and safety guidelines being developed by government agencies and health professionals. We are following closely the policies and procedures noted by the Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings.

We have made the recommended changes to our school programming to follow the requirements set out in Stage 2 of B.C.'s 5-stage framework. Based on the guidance from the Provincial Health Officer and the BC Centre for Disease Control, schools are encouraged to participate in field trip activities during Stage 2.

Here is a brief overview of the changes:

- We have adjusted our bookings to accommodate a classroom size of up to 30 students and a Learning Group of up to 60 or 120 students
 - Our ratios within these groups have been reduced to 1:15 with a Snowshoe Guide
- We will do our best to ensure there is no interaction between different Learning Groups and/or different schools
 - We will have staggered tour times to help facilitate the limited interaction between groups
- Physical distancing of 2m between the Snowshoe Guides and the students will be mandatory
 - Physical distancing requirements set up within the Learning Group will be upheld by our Snowshoe Guides
- High contact activities and games have been removed, or adapted to adhere to physical distancing, from all winter programming
- There will be no indoor spaces provided to school groups
 - Students are strongly encouraged to bring only what is necessary with them in a backpack (extra layers, snack, water) and either leave this on the bus, or on a tarp outside of the Snowshoe Centre
- We will have separate washrooms reserved for school groups to limit the use of the public washrooms on the mountain
- There will be no catering provided to school groups. We ask that groups either eat before arriving or after their departure
- All snowshoes will be sanitized before and after use
- All program materials will be sanitized before and after use

- The Snowshoe Guides will wear Personal Protective Equipment, a non-medical grade face covering, for those times that physical distancing cannot be maintained

Enhanced Facility Cleaning & Adjustments to Equipment Procedures

- Facilities will be cleaned and disinfected routinely throughout the day
- Regular cleaning of high-touch surfaces
- Obtaining rental equipment will happen outdoors
- All programming will be conducted outdoors
- Designated washrooms assigned to schools that are regularly cleaned and disinfected
- Sharing of program materials between students will be kept to a minimum, we will be separating out any used materials for cleaning before they can be used for a different group
- Cleaning of equipment, program materials, and facilities will be as per health guidelines utilizing approved sanitizing products

Mt Seymour Staff Health

- Staff must complete a self health assessment everyday
- **If Staff or someone in their household have the symptoms of a cold, flu, or COVID-19, including a cough, sneezing, runny nose, sore throat, or fatigue, they must stay at home!**
- Hand sanitizer and PPE – will be available to all staff at all times
- Any staff feeling or displaying symptoms developed throughout the day will be isolated and taken off the mountain immediately.
- Mt Seymour is taking all the necessary steps to follow the recommended protocol for contact tracing and will go above and beyond when able
- Contact between staff members will be limited

Bus Transportation Recommendations

We have gained knowledge about the safety of school bus use from our summer camps. Here are a few tips and tricks in organizing bus transport for field trips that align with the recommendations given by the Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings. We have had great success with these guidelines over the summer months.

- Use assigned seating, there are many school bus templates that can be found for free online
- As recommended by the Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings, middle school aged and highschool aged students are required to wear a non-medical grade face covering while on the bus **IF** they are not within the same Learning Group, whereas it is not required for elementary school aged children
- Utilizing hand sanitizer before the students get on the bus is an easy and efficient way to ensure clean hands on the bus
- Bus companies are required to adhere to the BCCDC and WorkSafe BC guidelines of disinfecting their busses before and after each run and for cleaning seats and handrails during stops on each run. Some bus companies have installed plastic barriers between the driver and the students, while others are required to wear non-medical grade face coverings