

Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre - June 2020

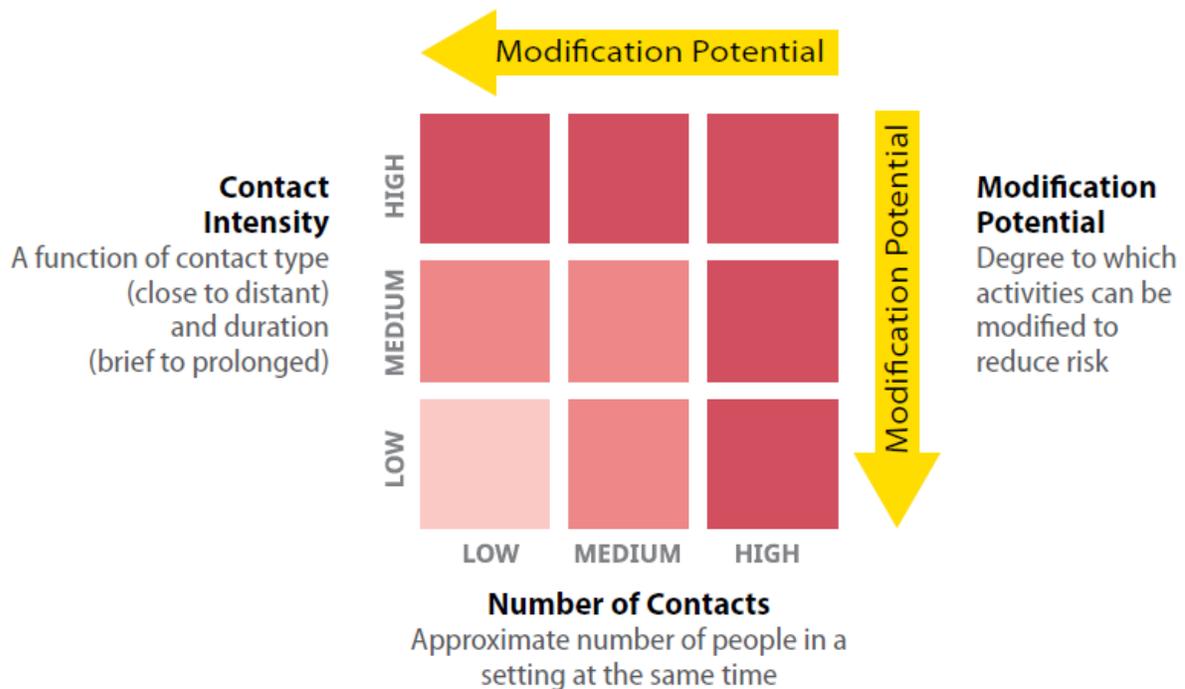
COVID-19 Health and Wellness Policies and Procedures

This staff policy is aimed at reducing the risk of transmission of Covid-19 based on guidance from the BC Recreation and Parks Sector (BCRPA), the BC Centre for Disease Control, Public Health Officer (PHO) and Worksafe BC.

Assessing the risk of transmission from social interaction in organizational settings and public institutions is a function of two variables supported by:

1. The contact intensity in your setting – the type of contact (close/distant) and duration of contact (brief/prolonged)?
2. The number of contacts in your setting – the number of people present in the setting at the same time

A range of actions can further reduce the risk of transmission based on this risk matrix.¹



The Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre aims to keep risk of virus transmission as low as possible during operation of our Summer Science and Nature Camps in July and August 2020. Contact Intensity at the Nature Centre is low to medium inside the Nature Centre and can be lowered with additional engineered controls including wearing masks and physical distancing such as a plexiglass screen at the volunteer desk. The number of contacts during camps will be limited to a maximum of 14 (12 campers and two leaders) between physically-distanced parent drop-offs. Public events and gatherings have been cancelled and the Centre will not be open to the public at any point during days when the camp is offered. Camp activities will be outside most of the time. In BC's Restart Plan, May 6, the BC Ministry of Health introduced these charts:

¹ BC Ministry of Health Go Forward Strategy (May 2020)

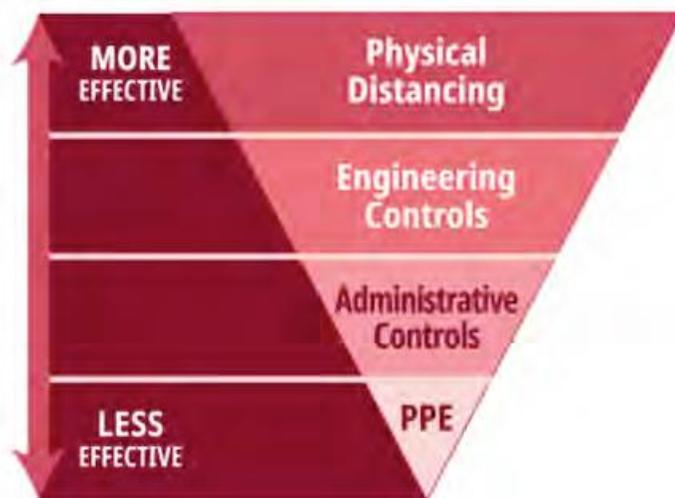
Five Principles For Every Situation

Personal Hygiene:	Stay Home if You Are Sick:	Environmental Hygiene:	Safe Social Interactions:	Physical Modifications:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequent handwashing • Cough into your sleeve • Wear a non-medical mask • No handshaking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine daily screening • Anyone with any symptoms must stay away from others • Returning travellers must self-isolate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More frequent cleaning • Enhance surface sanitation in high touch areas • Touch-less technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with small numbers of people • Maintain distance between you and people • Size of room: the bigger the better • Outdoor over indoor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spacing within rooms or in transit • Room design • Plexiglass barriers • Movement of people within spaces

Hierarchy of Controls For COVID-19

The hierarchy of controls is a framework for reducing transmission hazards. The most effective controls are at the top of the pyramid.

Source: Koehler, K, Rule A. Can a mask protect me? Putting homemade masks in the hierarchy of controls. [Internet] 2020 April 2. Johns Hopkins Education and Research Center for Occupational Safety and Health.



These strategies for **routine daily screening, physical distancing controls, hand hygiene provisions, and touch point sanitization** support the health and safety of staff and camp participants.

Routine daily screening for all staff and volunteers

- All staff/volunteers must complete a daily screening questionnaire upon arrival and log their temperature.

If any of the following conditions apply to a staff member or volunteer, they are asked not to come to the Nature Centre, but to stay home and self isolate:

- Any cold/flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, tiredness, aches, or severe tiredness)
- Waiting for a test or test result for COVID-19.
- A probable or confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19.
- Close contact with someone with a probable or confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis during the previous 14 days. When returning from any cross-border travel (including from

another Canadian province or the United States) staff or volunteers are asked to self-isolate for 14 days.

When a staff member becomes sick at the Nature Centre:

- Staff will be directed to go home and stay at home if they are feeling unwell.
- If they develop symptoms during their workday, they must leave the premises as soon as possible. If immediate departure is not possible, they must self-isolate in an appropriate location away from children and staff. Environmental cleaning will be performed upon the departure of the staff member.
- Staff who have symptoms can get a COVID-19 test, and with a negative result, may return to work as long as no fever is present.
- The local public health unit will be notified, and input sought. www.bccdc.ca/contact
- The coordinator will arrange for back-up staff to fill in as needed.
- In the event the coordinator becomes ill and is unable to work from home, a member of the Board's Executive Committee will be contacted and will coordinate activities where possible.

Use of masks and gloves

- Wearing a mask is recommended for staff working inside the Centre with children during summer camp, or when interacting with other staff, volunteers or visitors indoors unless working behind a plexiglass barrier.
- Staff working outdoors will have non-medical masks worn loosely around their necks at all times for quick and easy access in a first aid situation or in a situation where close proximity to the children/others is required e.g. emotional or other support or behaviour management.
- Gloves should continue to be worn for activities where gloves are usually required for sanitation purposes.

Physical distancing controls

- Staff/volunteers must respect physical distancing of 2m between themselves and others.
- Staff/volunteers must be aware of how many other people are within the Nature Centre or gathered together outside the Centre at one time and ensure that 2m physical distancing in all directions is being adhered to (5m radius calculations & unencumbered floor space indoors and sitting outdoors). Parents/ members of the public will be asked to wait outside in a line spaced 2m apart while waiting to check in for camp or to enter the Centre when space permits.
- Staff/volunteers will space their workstations and stagger work hours (whenever possible) to ensure only one person uses the office for a prolonged period at any one time.
- A portable plexiglass screen may be used on the volunteer welcome station counter or the check-in table for children arriving at camp as a barrier between the public and staff/volunteers.

Hand hygiene provisions

All staff/volunteers and children will be asked to wash their hands after touching any shared material, surfaces or equipment.

When beginning a shift staff/volunteers will wash their hands before they commence any activities. Hand sanitizer will be stationed and at the front door entry desk.

The touch tank will become an “observation tank” with only staff/trained volunteers touching/holding creatures for teaching to reduce touching the edges of the tank and the need to use sanitizing and cleaning products near the inter-tidal creatures.

Staff/volunteers will follow summer camp protocols for handwashing with children as follows:

- Understanding that children may forget about hand washing, we will practice often with them in a fun and relaxed way.
- When hand washing is not possible e.g. picnics outside etc. alcohol-based hand sanitizers will be provided.

Children will be supported in washing their hands for at least 20 seconds:

- When they arrive at the centre and before they go home
- Before and after eating and drinking
- After using the toilet
- After playing outside
- After sneezing or coughing into hands
- Whenever hands are visibly dirty
- If any shared material, surfaces or equipment have been touched.

Cleaning and Sanitization

With the understanding that COVID-19 can live on objects and surfaces from a few hours to days, Nature Centre Staff will undertake thorough daily cleaning of the building and disinfecting of objects and frequently touched surfaces.

- Washroom taps, handles and surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected twice per day.
- At end of day all surfaces will be wiped with oxy-clean detergent, floors mopped, bathroom door handles, soap dispensers, toilet handles and paper-towel handles will be sanitized.
- Playdoh, hand puppets and non-wipeable books will not be available for shared use in the Nature Centre. Washable hand-puppets may be used by individual camp staff and laundered when necessary.
- Frequently touched supplies such as art and craft materials – scissors/pencils etc. will be provided to campers in packs for individual use, and any share materials or tools will be regularly sanitized.
- The touch tank edges will be carefully wiped daily without using any chemicals that could contaminate the inter-tidal environment.
- Non-medical masks will be regularly laundered and w used, laundered the same day
- Summer camp staff will ensure that equipment such as binoculars and microscopes are wiped clean between each use.