

INFORMATION BRIEF

COVID-19 and Pandemic Planning: Resources for Public Spaces

E-RESOURCES FOR ALL LIBRARIES

CURRENT ISSUE:

The COVID-19 Virus strain has caused an outbreak around the world. Large public dominated spaces must be aware of the risks, and the precautionary measures to be taken.

SYMPTOMS INCLUDE

- Cough
- Fever
- Difficulty Breathing

SPREADS THROUGH

- Respiratory droplets when you cough/sneeze
- Close personal contact
- Touching something with the virus, and then touching eyes and face

THE GOAL:

The situation and around COVID-19 is changing on a daily basis. Below you will find resources and information to support you in responding to the current global COVID-19 pandemic.

If there are additional resources that you would recommend including, please email sroberts@accessola.com.

IMPORTANT UPDATE:

As of March 17, Ontario has declared a state of emergency and requires closure of [all public libraries](#).

Read the full news release here: https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/03/ontario-enacts-declaration-of-emergency-to-protect-the-public.html?utm_source=ondemand&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=p

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COVID-19 GENERAL INFORMATION

- **COVID19-Recent Updates on the New Coronavirus - Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ)**

<https://cmajnews.com/2020/03/17/coronavirus-1095847/>

For recent updates on the Novel Coronavirus, updated regularly by the Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ).

- **Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) - Government of Canada**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

Find daily updates and news on the Coronavirus disease in Canada.

- **The 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Government of Ontario**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus>

Learn about how the Ministry of Health is preparing for the 2019 novel coronavirus in Ontario. Find out how to protect yourself, what to do if you're sick after you travel and how to recognize possible symptoms.

- **Community-based measures to mitigate the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Canada. - The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/health-professionals/public-health-measures-mitigate-covid-19.html>

Guidance for federal/provincial/territorial (F/P/T) public health authorities (PHA) on the use of public health measures (PHM) to reduce and delay transmission of COVID-19 in the community , in collaboration with Canadian public health experts has developed this.

COVID-19 - RESOURCES FOR PATRONS

- **COVID-19 Public Resources. Public Health Ontario**

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/novel-coronavirus/public-resources>

A collection of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) fact sheets on self-isolation and self monitoring.

- **Clean Hands and Covering Coughs – Thunder Bay District Health Unit**

<https://www.tbdhu.com/health-topics/diseases-infections/clean-hands-and-covering-coughs#>

This website contains multilingual posters on keeping hands clean (hand hygiene) and covering coughs and sneezes (respiratory etiquette) to prevent the spread of infections.



- **Hand Hygiene – City of Toronto**

<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/health-programs-advice/hand-hygiene/>

This website has multiple resources on hand hygiene that include posters on hand washing, hand sanitizer use, and coughing. These posters are available in multiple languages and can be downloaded or printed for use by patrons and staff.

- **What Public Libraries Need To Know About the Coronavirus - Library Journal**

<https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=what-public-libraries-need-to-know-about-the-coronavirus>

Library Journal has created a list of resources to help educate the public about viruses and infectious diseases in general, as well as databases, which include helpful information for education about COVID-19. This resource is working to supply authoritative information for patrons of libraries, to prevent the spread of misinformation, and help educate patrons so they can be a partner in the overall health and safety of the library.

MENTAL HEALTH AND COVID

- **Manage Anxiety & Stress - Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/managing-stress-anxiety.html>

Resources and advice on managing anxiety and stress related to the outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

- **Talking to Children - Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/talking-with-children.html>

Guidance for parents, family members, school staff, and other trusted adults to help children make sense of what they hear about COVID-19 and ways they can avoid getting and spreading the disease.

- **COVID19 - Kids Help Phone**

<https://kidshelpphone.ca/get-info/were-here-for-you-during-covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

Mental health resources for kids and teens.

- **Mental Health Tips - MIND UK**

<https://www.mind.org.uk/coronavirusoutbreakmentalhealthtips/>

Multilingual, downloadable mental health tips for managing anxiety and stress related to the outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

RESOURCES FOR LIBRARIES

- **Survey - Public Library Response to COVID-19**

<https://forms.gle/YEB3sLh4nBPHCDrX9>

Use this form to share information about your public library's ongoing response to COVID-19. Questions will be updated as the situation evolves and libraries are welcome to complete the survey multiple times to report on how their response has changed over time.

View the full responses here: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1WQ-R-pDa0phNcdMwwMzpa5qIBbiATrpaD77WejbROw/edit#gid=462109731>

- **Learn HQ - Ontario Public Library Programming, Staffing and Well-Being During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

<https://resources.learnhq.ca/programming-staffing-wellbeing/digital>

See highlights and examples of how Ontario public libraries are responding to COVID-19 pandemic

- **Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL) - Newsroom.**

<http://fopl.ca/newsroom/>

Check out FOPL's blog for ongoing updates for the public library sector, including resources and ideas for how public libraries can respond during the COVID-19 pandemic. Examples:

- Virtual messaging and programming ideas for library physical closures

<http://fopl.ca/news/virtual-messaging-and-programming-ideas-for-library-physical-closures/>

- COVID-19 Innovations in Ontario's Public Libraries

<http://fopl.ca/news/covid-19-innovations-in-ontarios-public-libraries/>

- **COVID4GLAM Discussion Community**

Sign up at <http://discord.gg/vkaSYV5>

COVID4GLAM is a US-based discussion community for GLAM workers to connect, problem solve, organize resources, and support one other as our workloads transform under #COVID19.

- **Canadian Academic Libraries' Responses to COVID**

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1pXasaR7WNPCwVjvn5CPH7g9jU7cmLFrx4QxRKKEKd4/edit#gid=0>

See how academic libraries across the country are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in this crowd-sourced spreadsheet.



- **Library-Related Special Event Cancellations and Changes Due to COVID-19 Concerns - American Library Association (ALA)**

<https://www.infodocket.com/2020/03/10/library-related-special-event-cancellations-and-changes-due-to-covid-19-concerns/>

This page provides ongoing updates on the status of library special events internationally in the context of the evolving global COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Resources for Libraries – Librarianship.ca**

<https://librarianship.ca/features/covid-19-resources/>

For nation-wide updates and resources on libraries managing the coronavirus.

- **Status of Upcoming Library Conferences and Events in Canada**

<https://librarianship.ca/blog/status-library-conferences/>

This page provides ongoing updates on the status of library conferences across Canada in the context of the evolving global COVID-19 pandemic.

PANDEMIC PLANNING GUIDE

- **Canadian Pandemic Influenza Preparedness: Assessing preparedness - Government of Canada**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/flu-influenza/canadian-pandemic-influenza-preparedness-planning-guidance-health-sector/table-of-contents.html#a5a>

This is a guiding document with the intention of supporting the health emergency response in public spaces. Created by a group of Canadian experts, this information encourages a consistent and coordinated response between jurisdictions.

- **Pandemic Influenza Business Checklist - Government of Alberta**

<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/b7706bea-fa08-486b-b0c6-b967587232b5/resource/eb567854-1ab2-411d-bb59-976938c71b46/download/pandemic-business-checklist.pdf>

This is a checklist for public sector organizations and businesses to use, in order to organize their efforts on a day-to-day basis. This is a tool to assist in implementing planning protocol into your public space.

- **Pandemic Preparedness – American Library Association**

<http://www.ala.org/tools/atoz/pandemic-preparedness>

This document is a pandemic planning tool from the American library Association. It discusses preparation, including library-specific policy suggestions and more universal resources on pandemic education and prevention.

- **2019 Pandemic Guide – BOMA Canada**

<http://bomacanada.ca/pandemic-2019/>

This updated version of the pandemic guide will support public dominated spaces with information, as they prepare to manage a pandemic outbreak. This assists you, your employees, your tenants, your vendors and your guests in practicing safety, health and security throughout all your buildings.

- **Risk-informed decision-making for mass gatherings during COVID-19 global outbreak – Public Health Agency of Canada**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/health-professionals/mass-gatherings-risk-assesment.html>

Guidelines for conducting a risk assessment when determining the public health actions related to a mass gathering during the COVID-19 outbreak.

- **Business Continuity Plan - Canadian Center for Occupational Health and Safety**

<https://www.ccohs.ca/publications/PDF/businesscontinuity.pdf>

This document focuses on how to create a pandemic plan for your space, understanding the changes that occur during that process, and how to manage them. This focuses on taking you through the steps of planning, where to start and how to implement changes throughout your space, to keep staff and public safe.

