

# COVID-19 Guidance: Mass Gatherings, Risk of Elderly Populations

**As of March 13, 2020, the Minister of Health has made the following order pursuant to Section 45 of The Public Health Act:**

- No public events of more than 250 people take place. This does not include school, university, religious gatherings, work, or grocery shopping.
- No events of more than 50 people with speakers or attendees who have travelled internationally in the last 14 days take place.

If your event is less than 250 people, or you are considering attending events:

- Event organizers and institutions should sanitize frequently multi-touch surfaces such as handrails as well as provide tissues and hand sanitizer.
- Persons who have been in close contact with a confirmed case should self-isolate at home for 14 days. This means not attending mass gatherings and postponing travel plans.
- Anyone who develops respiratory symptoms should leave any event that they are attending, stay at home and avoid visiting elderly relatives and friends until they have fully recovered.

Additional information: Public Health Agency of Canada, [Risk-informed decision making for mass gatherings during COVID-19](#)

At this time, the Public Health Agency of Canada has assessed the public health risk associated with COVID-19 as low for the general population, but this could change quickly. There is an increased risk of more severe outcomes for Canadians 65 and over, and those with compromised immune systems or underlying medical conditions.

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- No one should attend visit an assisted living, long-term care or health care facility if ill, with the exception of seeking medical attention.
- Everyone should model social distancing (i.e. no handshakes, hugs, kisses).
- Everyone should follow proper hand/cough hygiene.
- Persons at higher risk, for example those over 65 or anyone with underlying medical conditions, should reconsider attending mass gatherings and international travel at this time.
- Publish health assessment and advice is accessible in Saskatchewan through HealthLine 811.

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