

# COVID-19

## Considerations for Return to In-Person Gatherings



As clubs consider in-person gatherings, including club meetings, social events, or fundraisers, this document is provided to assist with key considerations to ensure the safety of participants at Rotary events in District 7080.

First and foremost, public health measures provided by Medical Officers of Health should be your guiding principle. Additionally, many venues (e.g. restaurants, golf clubs, etc.) will establish additional guidelines.

### Considerations for Individuals

In addition to adhering to public health and other guidelines, each Rotarian needs to assess their individual situation in relation to:

- Vaccination status (self & others)
- Health condition(s)
- The health of family members/contacts
- Employment situation (e.g. health care workers or other essential workers and exposure history)
- Personal risk tolerance

### Safety is our #1 Priority

When and if you decide to return to in-person activities:

- Ensure Rotarians and guests are screened for symptoms, travel history, or contacts with individuals with symptoms. Ensure that you safely and securely retain records of in-person attendees including guests.
- Ensure you have a supply of masks and hand sanitizer for all guests (your venue may provide these PPE supplies)
- The World Health Organization has championed the need for equitable access to safe and effective vaccines. This will be critical to ending the COVID-19 pandemic. Safe and effective vaccines are a game-changing tool.
- In the meantime, we need to continue wearing masks, cleaning our hands, ensuring good ventilation indoors, physically distancing, and avoiding crowds
- As a club, you may have the opportunity to support public health measures in your community by volunteering or working in vaccination centres, by promoting awareness of public health measures and demonstrating leadership



### Considerations for Clubs

- Offer options that are inclusive, encourage engagement, and that do not mandate in-person attendance (e.g. virtual even if in-person meetings are possible or hybrid)
- Consider outdoor events which are safer than indoor events
- Keep current on public health guidelines and remain ready to change in-person to virtual if public health measures change
- Respect individual choices and personal information
- Be kind - remember the Four Way Test

Our # 1 goal is the health and safety of Rotarians, their family members & guests.

*Rudy Habesch, District Governor*

I would encourage everyone to be vaccinated and speak to their physician or nurse practitioner if they have questions.

*Michael Lawrie, MD, Past District Governor*

### Additional Resources

For additional information consult the following:

- Your Local Public Health Unit
- [www.ontario.ca/covid19](http://www.ontario.ca/covid19)
- [www.publichealthontario.ca](http://www.publichealthontario.ca)
- [www.canada.ca/covid19](http://www.canada.ca/covid19)
- [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

If you have any questions, contact your Assistant Governor.

