

Updated Jan 28, 2021

ELECTION YUKON'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Elections Yukon is committed to ensuring safe and secure elections for the public, electors, and election workers. To do this, Elections Yukon is working in close collaboration with the Department of Health and Social Services to put the necessary COVID-19 measures and precautions in place.

The election will be administered following guidelines established by the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) and leveraging the best practices of other jurisdictions. Elections Yukon had piloted a number of COVID-19 measures and guidelines for the general election for members of a school council in the fall of 2020. Additional measures may also be established by the Chief Electoral Officer to further protect election officials and the public.

Elections Yukon has developed a business continuity plan to provide the direction necessary to administer an election during various COVID-19 pandemic and post-pandemic scenarios. To that end, the three objectives of the Elections Yukon measures are:

- safeguarding the health of the public and election workers;
- ensuring access to electors to exercise their right to vote and be a candidate; and
- protecting the integrity of the election process and validity of the results.

The information provided below outlines some of the measures Elections Yukon will implement during the election period. These guidelines, produced in consultation with the CMOH, are to support a safe territorial general election for all stakeholders. If there is a discrepancy between this guidance and that of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the CMOH guidance would take precedence.

General Guidance

- Ensure you arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the election to help set-up, hang posters, place markers on the floor etc.
- Brief COVID safety to your team and discuss with them. Considerations include a risk assessment (where people congregate, tasks of workers), implementation measures (physical distancing, masks, actions where physical distancing not possible, cleaning and hygiene), policies (such as use of masks, if in close contact, symptoms, or told to self isolate). Describe COVID process – routes, sanitization, masks, cleaning routines, garbage, etc)
- PPE will be provided. Always wear your mask in election facilities. Ensure you know the proper way to put on and take off your mask. If you are not sure, ask.

- Minimizing face-to-face interactions where possible by finding alternate ways to accomplish objectives. This may include organizing meeting in small, physically distanced groups.
- Use of a mask is mandatory in all public spaces. Masks do not replace physical distancing requirements.
- Stay home if you're feeling sick, feeling unwell or have COVID-19 symptoms; (fever, sore throat, shortness of breath, etc). Please get tested if you are symptomatic.
- Complete the online self-assessment tool; <https://service.yukon.ca/en/covid-19-self-assessment/>
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol (use a Health Canada approved hand sanitizer).
- Cough into your elbow.
- Follow all guidance from the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

Guidelines for Poll Supervisors

- Confirm workers for election duties at least night before
- Keep polling place clean
- Self screening posters at entrances and, if applicable, in outdoor waiting areas.
- Sanitizers on entry and exit at the polling station.
- Masks are mandatory for elections officials. Masks will be available for electors who do not have them.
- Respiratory etiquette supplies such as tissues and lined waste containers will be available.
- Sanitizer is available for election officials.
- Handwashing protocols are in place.
- Frequent cleaning of high touch surfaces including doors handles, voting areas, and tables.
- Additional poll attendant staff will be in place to assist in traffic control and sanitization.
- Where possible, there will be a separate entry and exit door with sanitation stations located nearby.
- Ensure you understand the COVID-specific tasks of all your election workers.
- Maintain the appropriate distance at all times
- PPE will be provided. Always wear your mask in election facilities. Ensure you know the proper way to put on and take off your mask. If you are not sure, ask.
- Sanitize your hands regularly. Encourage electors to sanitize their hands prior to handling the poll book by example.

- Frequently clean high touch surfaces such as tables and writing instruments.
- Ensure that sanitizers are available at the entrance to the polling place and at your polling station.

Signage

- Floor decals to support 2 metre distancing in line up areas.
- Screening information at the entrance to the polling place and possibly in outdoor waiting areas
- Arrows to help with flow and indicate routes
- Reminders to maintain 2 metre spacing
- Coloured tape to create “wait here” lines and traffic lanes to polling station
- Clear marking of Entrances and Exits

Guidelines for Candidates and Scrutineers at the Polls

- Scrutineers and campaign workers who are feeling ill should stay home and complete the online self-assessment tool <https://service.yukon.ca/en/covid-19-self-assessment/> Please get tested if symptomatic.
- All scrutineers entering polling locations must wear masks, sanitize their hands upon entry and observe physical distancing guidelines.
- Elections Yukon will provide a record of voters sheet at 2 hour intervals during polling day for scrutineer issue or pick up.
- Scrutineers will be seated at a safe distance from the polling tables.
- Up to two scrutineers from each candidate are allowed at each polling division. The Chief Electoral Officer may implement measures to reduce this to one scrutineer per candidate as appropriate.
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MASK REQUIRED



Protect each other when you're in shared indoor spaces.
Wear a mask that covers your nose, mouth and chin.
And remember to keep your distance.

This does not apply to people who cannot wear a mask because they have a medical condition or a disability.

A mask or face covering can be cloth or disposable.

MASQUE OBLIGATOIRE



Protégez-vous les uns les autres dans les espaces publics intérieurs.

Portez un masque qui couvre votre nez, votre bouche et votre menton.

Et rappelez-vous de respecter la distance physique.

Ne s'applique pas aux personnes qui ne peuvent pas porter de masque en raison d'un problème de santé ou d'un handicap.

Le masque ou le couvre-visage peut être en tissu ou jetable.

The Yukon logo, featuring the word "Yukon" in a white sans-serif font with a small sunburst icon above the letter 'o'. The logo is positioned in the bottom right corner of the page, above a green wavy border that resembles a mountain range.

Practise the Safe 6



1

Maintain physical distancing – keep 2 metres away from everyone who's not a member of your social bubble



2

Wash your hands frequently with soap and water, or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol



3

Stay home if you're feeling sick



4

Follow the social and organized gathering guidelines and respect the limitations on group size



5

Limit travel to rural communities, and be respectful when you're there



6

Self-isolate if you've returned to Yukon and have been outside of BC, Nunavut or the NWT in the last 14 days, or if you've been in contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19

Visit yukon.ca/safe-6 for more information

The Yukon logo features the word 'Yukon' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Above the letter 'o' is a stylized sun icon with rays.