

Town of Taber

Covid-19 Return-to-Work Considerations

As many in our community gear up for our return-to-work in 'Phase One' beginning on May 14, 2020 it can be an uncertain time for many.

Found below are some guidelines or suggestions for consideration once we open our doors again. They are only a guide – they are not mandatory or compulsory in any way. Many business owners are left to navigate through this unknown territory with no guidance while others have some through their various colleges, associations, etc. This 'Guide' is simply here to help you with some of questions you may have to help make this transition less stressful and most importantly keep our business owners, employees and customers all safe.

Amidst opening, there will be people with mixed emotions about the situation as a whole. You will likely encounter some people who are ready to resume the 'norm', people that are scared, and people who waiver between the two. We have to remember to be considerate of all feelings but also at the same time set boundaries in our businesses that air on the side of caution as is recommended by our Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Deena Hinshaw.

Infection and prevention control is at utmost importance in preventing spread and having our situation go backwards. Let's follow recommendations and continue to move forward and prosper together!

Some steps we can implement to continue improving our difficult situation:

1. Daily screening of yourself and employees: This could include a written or verbal questionnaire of any symptoms they have had (sore throat, cough, fever, flu-like symptoms, etc.), if they've come into contact with anyone that has tested positive for Covid-19 (or possible symptoms of), or any recent travelling. Anyone that answers yes to these questions should visit Alberta Health Services website for self-assessment or call 811. They may have to self-isolate for 14 days. Businesses with appointments may want to pre-screen their customers prior to their appointment times with the same questions.

2. Ensure proper hand hygiene is being followed – have anti-bacterial soap as well as hand sanitizer (with 70% alcohol) readily available for staff as well as near the entry so Customers can sanitize as they enter. Hand hygiene should be done at the start of a shift, after bathroom breaks and eating (of course), but also between every customer and before leaving for home. Hand hygiene is recommended rather than gloves unless you have enough gloves to change between every customer and know how to apply and remove appropriately (which includes hand hygiene between application and removal of gloves – every time).

3. Signage: Post signage in and around your business – depending on which type of business this could vary. Some examples:
 - a. ‘Please practice social distancing’ – 6 feet
 - b. ‘Please sanitize hands upon entry’ – sanitizer at the front door (with 70% alcohol.)
 - c. A clearly marked pathway (one-way works best) through the business with arrows to guide people and help maintain social distancing
 - d. In businesses where there is minimal space or it is difficult to maintain social distancing of 6m you may consider a maximum amount of customers at one time and post this on your Entry door (you may want to mark out waiting lines 6ft apart outside the business as well)
 - e. Businesses with appointments may want post signage stating they will call you in from your car when they are ready for you.
 - f. Marking out a line for people to distance from the reception or payment counter. Some businesses have also put up plexiglass at for extra protection.
 - g. Signage stating that no cash is accepted at this time – consider accepting only credit or debit cards only as there is less cross contamination involved.

4. For retail and food establishments–you may want to consider phone-in orders and curbside pick-up. This could include credit card payment via phone or etransfers.

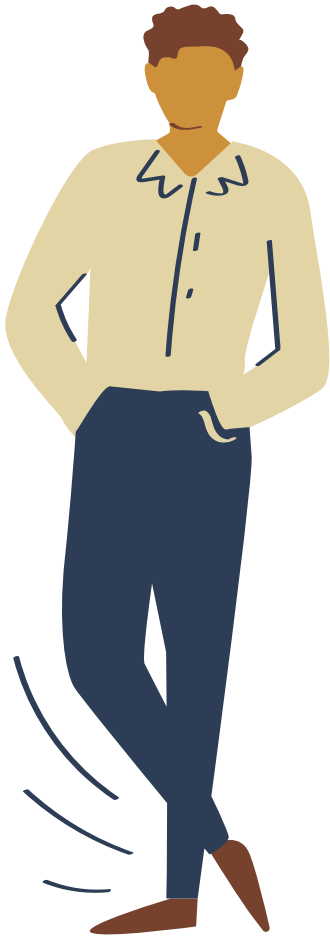
5. Diligent disinfection with an approved disinfecting agent of commonly touched surfaces – front door, counters, bathrooms, debit/credit machines, shopping carts/baskets, etc. If you have a high volume location you may want to have one employee designated for this task as it needs to be done repeatedly, after each customer.

6. Masks – this is again, is only a guide. Masks can cause more problems than protection if used improperly. They mostly protect the surrounding people than the actual person wearing them – however if they make someone feel safer and as long as they are being put on and off properly they can be used. Proper hand hygiene should be used before putting on and taking off masks. Some businesses have made masks mandatory – this is completely up to the business owner – if you have you may want to have them readily available for your customers. If your work requires close contact of less than 6ft, a mask for both the employee and customer is recommended. If unable to access masks at this time reach out to your customers- they may be able to access their own. Face shields may also be considered in some cases for employees in close contact with customers/clients.

Alberta Health Services is a great resource for hand washing tutorials as well as taking on and off protective equipment (Donning and Doffing of Personal Protective Equipment or PPE).

Please visit: <https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/covid-19-workplace-guidance-for-business-owners.pdf> for more information from our government on Alberta's relaunch as well as many other resources related to the pandemic.

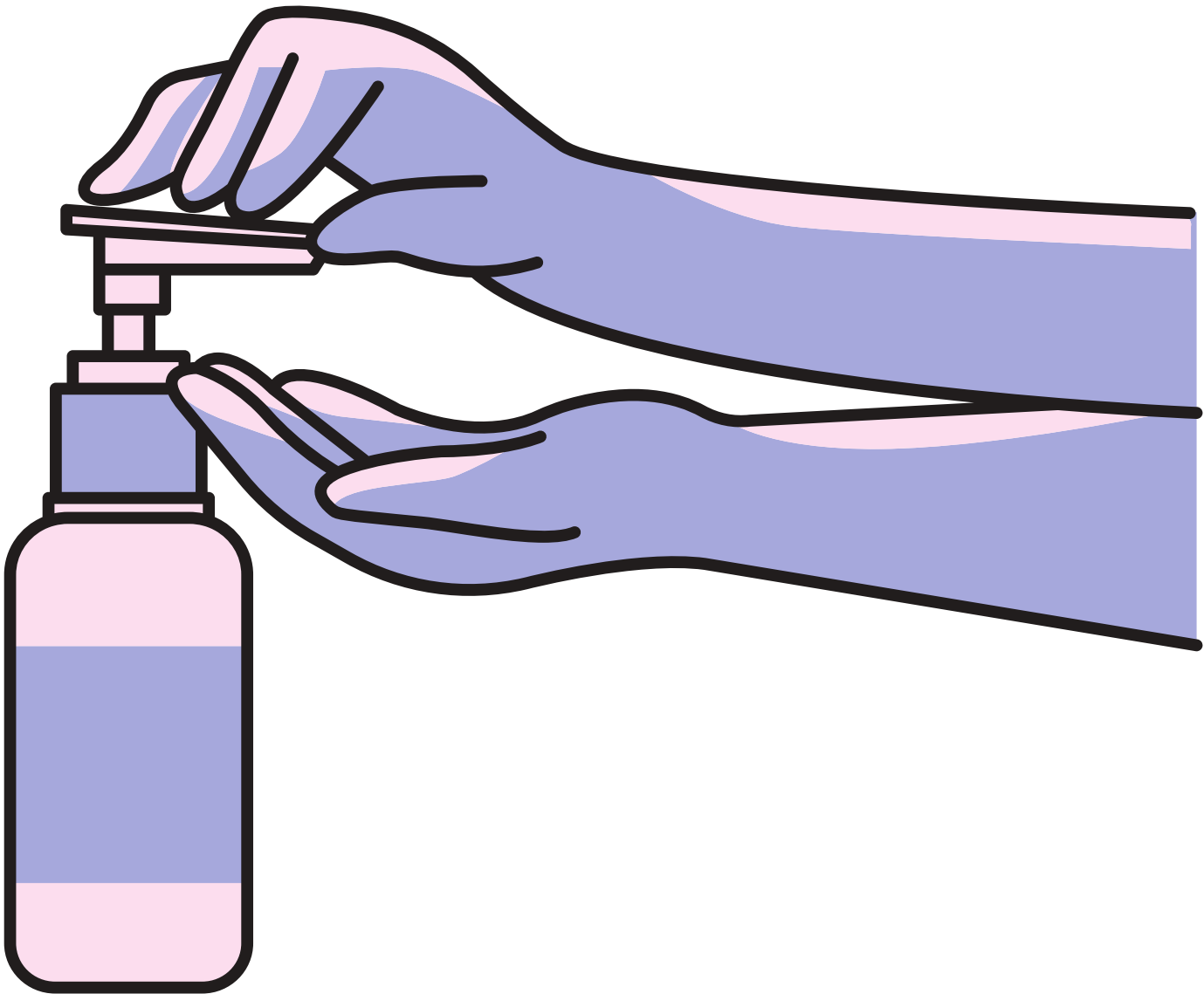
Stay safe everyone. Support Local!



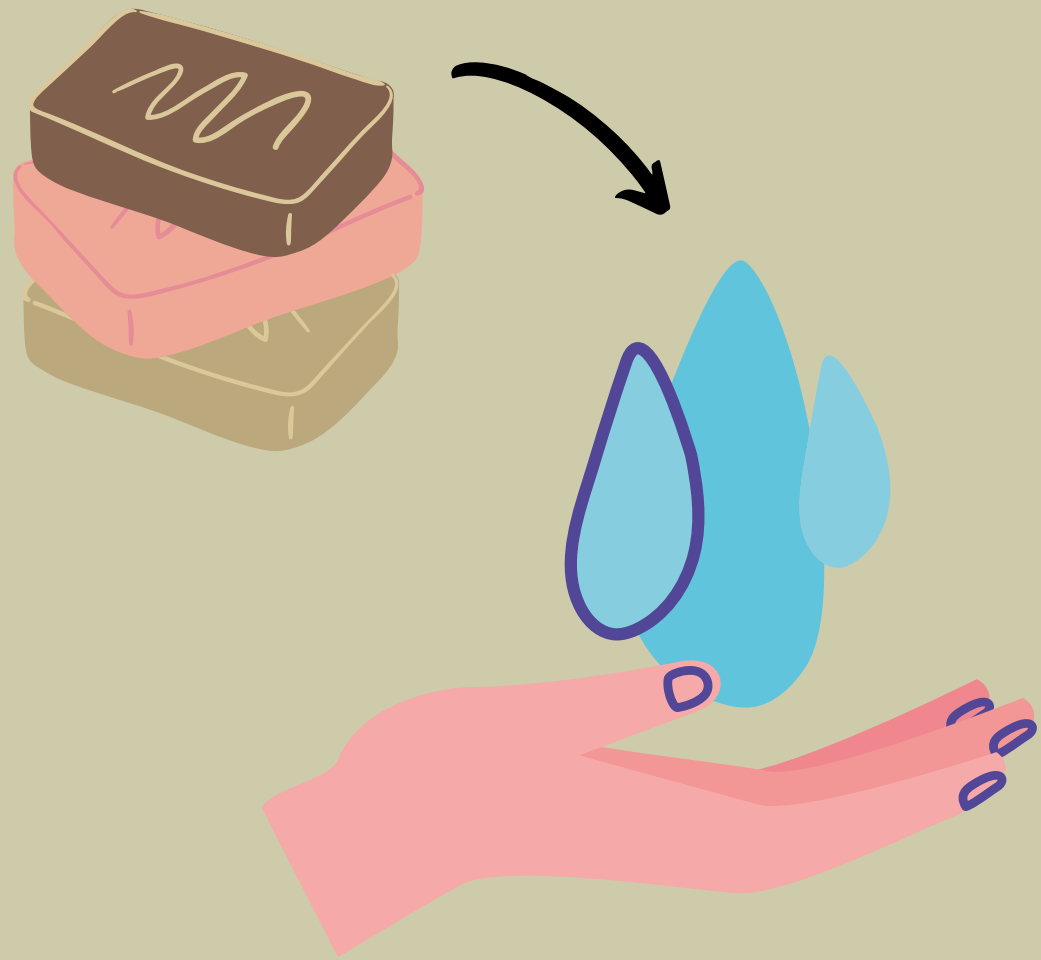
**Please
Practice
Social
Distancing**



please
sanitize hands
upon entry



A GUIDE TO MASK USE



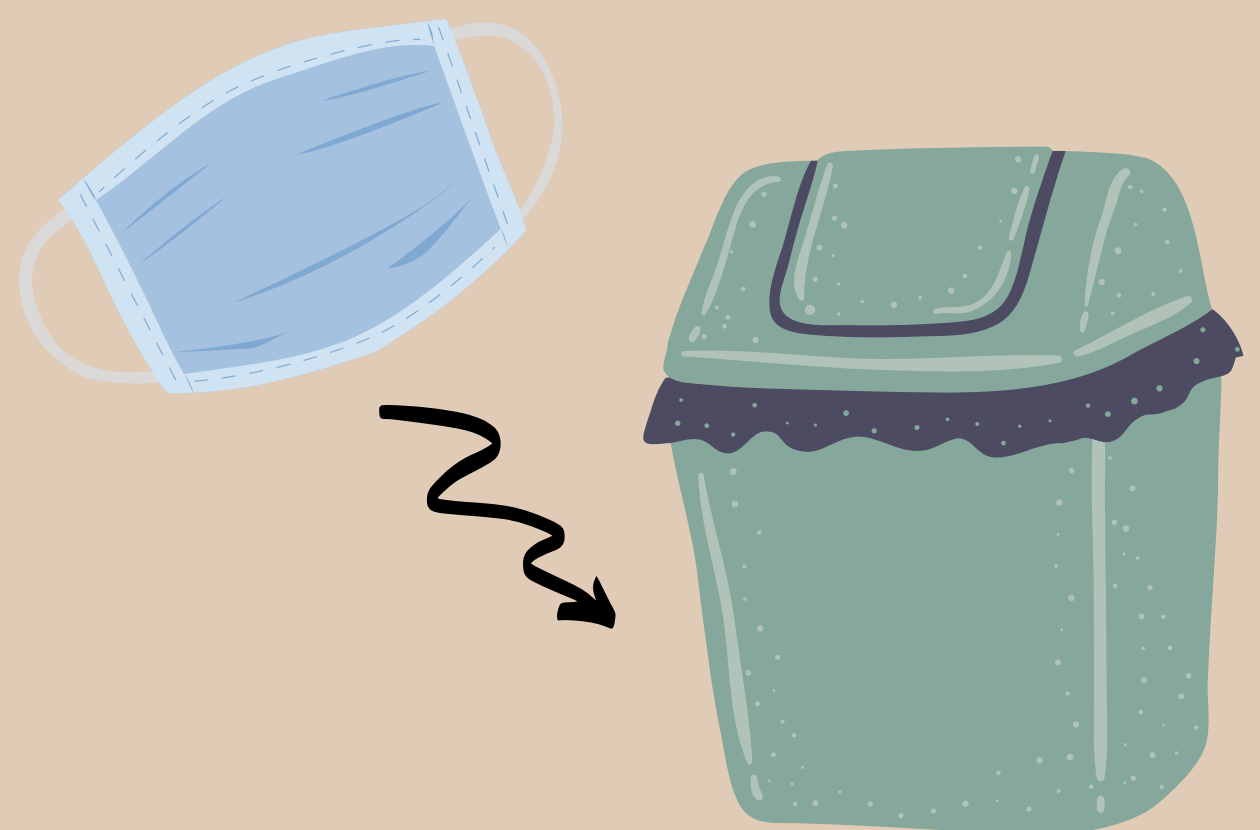
Before putting on a mask, clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.



Cover mouth and nose with mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask.



Replace the mask with a new one as soon as it is damp and do not re-use single-use masks.



To remove the mask: remove it from behind (do not touch the front of mask); discard immediately in a closed bin; clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.

Handwashing 101

#StopTheSpread

Proper hygiene stops the spread of the virus.

Source:
World Health
Organization

01

Wet your hands before applying soap.



02

Bring your palms together and rub soap all over the palms and backs of your hands, including between the fingers.



03

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds.



04

Wipe your hands with a clean towel or paper towel and avoid rubbing too vigorously.

