

WCAT Safety Plan

WCAT has continued to operate during the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. WCAT has introduced new and enhanced measures to improve personal safety and prevent any risk of exposure to COVID-19.

WCAT's initiatives, many of which have been taking place since the beginning of the pandemic, are now part of WCAT's Safety Plan. WCAT will update this plan continually as we receive guidance from public health officials and [WorkSafeBC](#) (as the regulator). Below are steps and actions WCAT is taking:

- Monitoring the progression of the virus and following the recommendations from the [BC Provincial Health Officer](#), [BC Centre for Disease Control](#), and the [Public Health Agency of Canada](#).
- Opening the office to the public on Monday, July 6, 2020 with physical distancing measures in place.
- Implementing physical distancing measures.
 - Scheduling oral hearings to proceed by videoconference. Click [here](#) to find more information about oral hearings.
 - Cancelling all non-essential travel by air or ferry.
 - Postponing and cancelling any large group gatherings and staff meetings.
 - Conducting all internal meetings by videoconference.
 - Posting safety signage for visitors at the main entrance.
 - Removing furnishings in reception to allow for adequate spacing.
 - Educating staff on ways to practice physical distancing in the workplace.
- Increasing cleaning and hygiene practices.
 - Increasing and maintaining daily cleaning and disinfecting high touch areas.
 - Promoting [hand hygiene practices](#). Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes will be assessable to the public and staff.
- Implementing screening protocols for visitors and contractors in the office.
- Developing an enhanced Safety Plan for transitioning staff back to the office as per the planning tool and checklist from WorkSafeBC, which includes:
 - Communicating current information to staff.
 - Ensuring staff stay home if they are sick and ensuring they take care of their mental well-being.
 - Staggering schedules for staff working in the office.

What you can do to enhance your own personal safety and that of others:

- Wash your hands often, and always after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
- Wash with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or, if soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Keep up to date on the most current information about the coronavirus.