



District of Ucluelet – Bylaw Enforcement Priorities During COVID-19

High Priority

The highest priority at this time is *Education* and *Monitoring for Compliance* to assist enforcement of Provincial Health Officer and General Provincial Orders.

The relevant orders encountered in the District of Ucluelet relate to:

[“Owners and Operators of Nightclubs and Food & Drink Establishments”](#);

[“Travellers”](#); and,

[“Mass Gatherings”](#);

- Health Officers (Island Health staff) will focus on regulated establishments such as food premises (restaurants, grocery stores, mobiles) and personal service establishments (barber shops, tattoo parlors, massage therapy, etc.).
- Municipalities have been asked to focus on unregulated establishments which are not frequented by Health Officers, and to monitor closed public facilities and businesses.
- Those establishments which are not directly monitored by Health Officers will be monitored by municipal staff. Any concerns will be communicated to provincial Health Authorities, who retain responsibility for enforcement of all Provincial Health Orders.

In addition, municipalities have been asked to assist with education and enforcement of the health ***recommendations*** issued by the Public Health officers.

What does this look like in Ucluelet?

If non-compliance is observed or reported, municipal Bylaw Services staff will investigate. As requested by the Provincial Health Officer, our staff will:

- educate individuals and business operators on Health Orders and Recommendations;
- provide formal warnings; and,
- provide evidence and other support for provincial Enforcement measures if necessary.

A. Short-Term Accommodation:

Provincial and Federal health officers are recommending that all non-essential travel be suspended. To date it appears that *voluntary compliance of short-term accommodation providers has been extremely high in Ucluelet*, and the community thanks you for doing the right thing at this difficult time.

Any business providing either **short-term accommodation for individuals who are sheltering while self-isolating or who need to be housed in the community in order to provide an essential service**, is asked to contact the municipal Licence Inspector at bylaw@ucluelet.ca with details of the location and duration of that stay.

The ongoing success of voluntary compliance will be monitored. Non-essential short-term accommodation activity may be deemed to be misconduct of a business in contravention to the Provincial and Federal health recommendations and could result in Business Licence suspension, fines, and further bylaw enforcement steps.

B. Construction Sites:

The Province has determined that construction work, in accordance with Public Health Officer direction - including construction firms, skilled trades and professionals, and construction and light industrial machinery and equipment rental - are considered non-health essential services and may proceed if they can adapt their services and workplace to the orders and recommendations of the PHO. Many construction sites have already scaled back or shut down in order to comply with the urgent call for social distancing to remove opportunities for the transmission of the COVID-19 virus. In addition, local health professionals are calling for the temporary suspension of any work or leisure activity which carries a risk of injury that might demand health resources at this time. The District thanks businesses and workers for the sacrifices being made to protect the community's health and wellbeing.

A summary of recommended practices follows in this document for convenience. Employers should reassess their work environment every day and keep updated with the information posted on the Province's website: www.gov.bc.ca/COVID19

Non-compliance may result in business licence suspension, fines, and further bylaw enforcement steps.

Other Priorities

Other bylaw complaints and issues will be investigated and followed up as staff time and availability allows.

COVID-19 Practices for Construction Sites

Contractors:

This summary of recommended practices is pulled from provincial sources and is provided for convenience. Employers should reassess their work environment every day and keep updated with the information posted on the Province's website: www.gov.bc.ca/COVID19

The Public Health Officer is directing employers to take all necessary precautions to minimize the risks of COVID-19 transmission and illness to themselves and their employees. On construction sites this includes:

- There should be no more than 50 people in the same space in any circumstances.
- Where possible, employees should maintain a distance of two metres apart from each other.
- Reduce in-person meetings and other gatherings and hold site meetings in open spaces or outside.
- Sanitize vehicles and machines each shift.
- No carpooling.
- Increase the number of handwashing stations and post signage that identifies their location.
- Maintain a list of employees that are currently working on sites and update this list daily.
- All common areas and surfaces should be cleaned at the end of each day. Examples include washrooms, shared offices, common tables, desks, light switches and door handles.
- Job-specific distancing and limiting staff distance for any still required toolbox safety discussions etc. (using radio when possible).
- Safety meetings still occur and include increased instructions and ID of COVID health hazards (touch points and exposure risk discussions).
- Crews are accountable to each other practicing safe distancing and hygiene.
- BC COVID-19 self-assessment tool questions to be answered prior to each shift by workers. If any workers answer yes, they are to immediately return home.

Section 4.85 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation does provide for a minimum standard around the provision of washrooms and hand washing facilities. Where plumbed facilities are impracticable, employers must provide access to portable washroom and hand-washing facilities. Those facilities must be maintained in good working order and must be provided with the supplies necessary for their use.

COVID-19 Practices for Workers

Workers:

- As directed by the Ministry of Health, please utilize the self assessment tool. It can be found here <https://covid19.thrive.health/>
- If you answer “yes” to any of the following questions, employees must abide by the recommends of the Ministry of Health found at <https://covid19.thrive.health/>
 - Are you experiencing any of the following?
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Sneezing
 - Sore throat
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Have you travelled to any countries outside Canada (including the United States) within the last 14 days?
 - Did you provide care or have close contact with a person with COVID-19 (probable or confirmed) while they were ill (cough, fever, sneezing, or sore throat)?
 - Did you have close contact with a person who travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days who has become ill (cough, fever, sneezing, or sore throat)?
- If per the Ministry of Health’s recommendation you are required to self-isolate, you should not attend a work site until the prescribed self-isolation period is complete.
- Self-isolation can end 14 days after the last contact or return to Canada if you have not developed symptoms.
- With or without a history of travel, if you have respiratory symptoms that can be managed at home, **self-isolate at home for at least 10 days after onset of symptoms**. After 10 days, if your temperature is normal and you feel better, you can return to your routine activities.
- Coughing may persist for several weeks, so a cough alone does not mean you need to continue to self-isolate for more than 10 days.

Public Health Officer of BC Orders - <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/current-health-topics/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

General Provincial Orders -

<http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/content/mo/mo/1115649140/?xsl=/templates/browse.xsl>