



Please see clarification from the Order Interpretation Unit as to the loosening of Restrictions which started 17-Aug-2020.

Subject: Clarification - loosening of restrictions August 17th

Response:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding social distancing while we are under a state of emergency.

In the context of the [Mandatory Order](#), everyone is prohibited from knowingly approaching within 2 metres of others, except members of their family and friends. If a 2 metre distance cannot be maintained, masks are to be worn.

Beginning August 17, physical distancing may be reduced to 1 metre at venues where seating is provided for employees, patrons and/or visitors when community face masks are used at all times. This will apply to both work settings and gatherings such as rinks, theatres, indoor/outdoor recreational facilities, organized sports and post-secondary institutions. The 1 metre rule only applies in the areas of the venue where seating is provided.

This rule requires that face coverings be worn by all persons at all times while seated within 1 metre of others. There are no exceptions to this rule including persons exempt from the requirement to wear a face covering by the Chief Medical Officer of Health such as children and/or for medical reasons. The consumption of food and drinks is not permitted in these seating areas.

If a venue permits face coverings to be removed for any reason, including the consumption of food or drink, a 2 metre distance must be maintained unless appropriate engineering controls have been implemented per [guidelines](#) from WorkSafeNB. The 1 metre rule does not apply in any part of the venue where seating is not provided such as line-ups, stairwells, hallways, or in areas where food is consumed.

Remember to visit www.gnb.ca/coronavirus regularly for the most up-to-date and accurate information on COVID-19.



**Regional Emergency Management Coordinator
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