



marine  
renewables  
canada

# Marine Renewables Canada Health & Safety Guidelines

## *meetings, events & conferences*

**As of May 27, 2021**

With the anticipation that COVID-19 restrictions will begin to ease again over the next couple of months, Marine Renewables Canada (MRC) is working towards developing and hosting in-person events. The health and safety of its members and event attendees are always the top priority and MRC will ensure all proper guidelines are followed during the organization and implementation of events and member activities. As in 2020, MRC is continuously reviewing and implementing public health directives and guidelines for gatherings and are working closely with venues and service providers to ensure all guidelines are followed.

All COVID-19 public health directives will be followed. This means that events in 2021 will likely continue to require physical distancing and enhanced cleaning procedures and MRC will ensure that these remain an essential part of ensuring health and safety during in-person meetings/events. Risk and health are two key considerations and initially this may mean smaller meeting and event sizes that follow public health directives.

Working alongside venue partners, MRC will follow a series of meeting formats, equipment packages, and recommendations that address how to reduce risk, increase confidence, and promote health within the meeting space. Meeting design, room/venue layout, traffic flow, technology considerations and enhanced cleaning procedures are at the heart of this with the goal to make the meetings and events safe and comfortable for attendees.

MRC is committed to continue to provide events that align with travel restrictions, physical distancing and best practices around health and safety. This may include (dependant on gathering restrictions at the time of the event:

### **Meeting Design**

- Smaller group gatherings and consultation with venues on creative and safe use of space.
- Mix of both in-person and virtual events with the expectation that not all attendees will be physically present.

### **Room Layout & Traffic Flow**

- Implementation of physical distancing measures (ex. use of larger venues/space capacities to accommodate).
- Chair/table layouts established to take into account physical distancing.

## **Food & Beverage**

- Buffets and coffee break stations will be attended and served by an attendant to eliminate guest contact on serving utensils.
- Pre-packaged food provided during breaks and individually packaged beverages (no pitchers or carafes) will be served.

## **Technology Considerations**

- Virtual/hybrid component for events will be available when possible and appropriate for the event content.
- Enhancements to complement new meeting designs including sound, aesthetics, single use items, etc.

## **Cleaning Requirements**

- Transparency with attendees on processes and commitments.
- Enhanced cleaning for high touch items.
- 'Set and Leave' for multiple uses.

## **General Precautions**

With ongoing COVID-19 cases in Canada, Public Health and industry recommends the following:

1. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (of 70% concentration).
2. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
4. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
5. If onset of flu like symptoms begin self-isolate
6. Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
7. Use of protective gloves during use of all sanitation products.

## **Adherence to Public Health Directives**

MRC will follow and implement all relevant public health directives issued by the government of the province where the event is hosted.

While deemed necessary by public health, MRC will require all event attendees to complete a Symptom Screening Tool before entering the event.