

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

novascotia.ca/coronavirus



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Please find included information on the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) as it relates to March Break day camps for children and youth.

As the situation with the virus continues to evolve rapidly, it is important to be aware of a few simple actions you can take to help keep staff, children and youth healthy while preventing the spread of respiratory illnesses, such as COVID-19, within your programs and buildings.

March Break camp operators are encouraged to review the fact sheets attached. Important tips to highlight that can help prevent the spread of viruses in your camps and facilities are:

- encourage staff, children and youth to use good hand hygiene
 - post hand washing signs throughout building (included)
 - demonstrate to children and youth proper hand washing techniques
 - schedule times throughout the day, especially before meals and snacks, for handwashing
- do not share water bottles or drinking cups; label water bottles
- clean high-touch surfaces throughout building (e.g. elevator buttons, door handles, railings, etc.) at a minimum of twice daily as outlined in the *Employers and Community Groups* fact sheets
- limit the use and availability of non-essential items that cannot be easily cleaned (e.g. magazines, stuffed toys)
- if available, make alcohol-based hand rub available throughout your facilities

A new virus such as the one that causes COVID-19 can create fear and anxiety among staff, children, youth and families. Good accurate information is the best way to alleviate concerns:

- listen and provide reassurance – it's normal to have questions
- get accurate information from reliable sources, such as www.novascotia.ca/coronavirus
- address questions and correct misinformation
- monitor for discrimination/bullying related to COVID-19
- maintain normal routines and programming as much as possible
- for help with mental health concerns, call 811 or the Mental Health Crisis Line toll-free at 1-888-429-8167

I hope you find this information helpful. Additional resources can be downloaded from our website: www.novascotia.ca/coronavirus

If you have further questions or need support, contact your local [Public Health office](#).