



**THE RESORT MUNICIPALITY OF WHISTLER
COUNCIL POLICY**

POLICY NUMBER:	B-18	DATE OF RESOLUTION:	OCTOBER 20, 2020
NAME: Face Mask Use within Municipal Facilities			

1.0 SCOPE OF POLICY

- 1.1 This policy mandates the use of a face mask and applies to all persons entering and or occupying an indoor facility operated by the Resort Municipality of Whistler. It includes all staff, contractors and members of the public.
- 1.2 This policy may be updated to reflect the current pandemic situation including recommendations from health authorities.
- 1.3 This policy supplements the current Resort Municipality of Whistler COVID-19 Exposure Control Plan and RMOWCOVID-19 Safety Plan.

2.0 OBJECTIVE

- 2.1 The Resort Municipality of Whistler is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all staff and members of the public. As our facilities gradually reopen, a combination of control measures are being implemented to mitigate the exposure of COVID-19. The risk of possible exposure has been identified through three primary routes; contact, droplet and airborne transmission.
- 2.2 The BC Centre of Disease Control has identified the use of face masks as a measure to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19. The use of masks where physical distancing of 2m is not possible can reduce the spread of droplets from a person's nose and mouth by creating a barrier when talking, laughing, yelling, singing and coughing or sneezing.
- 2.3 This policy mandates that a face mask is to be worn in all municipal facilities. It is an additional measure of source control and it is not intended to replace other measures put in place. The BC Centre for Disease Control states that wearing a mask should be combined with other preventative controls such as frequent hand washing and physical distancing of 2m where possible. The use of face masks alone will not prevent the spread of COVID-19.

3.0 DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 **Face Mask** - A mask is a protective barrier that is worn on the face, covers at least the nose and mouth, and is used to contain large droplets generated during coughing and sneezing *by the person wearing the mask*. Masks help minimize the spread of potentially infectious material *from the infected wearer* to other people.

- 3.2 **Facility** - any building, space or premise that is used to carry out business of the Resort Municipality of Whistler.

4.0 EXEMPTIONS

- 4.1 Children under two years of age; or children under the age of five years either chronologically or developmentally who refuse to wear a mask or face covering and cannot be persuaded to do so by their caregiver;
- 4.2 Persons with medical conditions who cannot safely wear a mask or face covering (e.g. due to breathing difficulties, cognitive difficulties, hearing or communication difficulties);
- 4.3 Persons who cannot wear or remove a mask or face covering without assistance;
- 4.4 Staff who are in a non-publicly accessible area where 2m physical distance can be maintained (e.g. within a private office), or who are within or behind a physical barrier (e.g. Plexiglass);
- 4.5 Persons actively engaging in an athletic or fitness activity, including water-based activities;
- 4.6 Persons consuming food or drink; or
- 4.7 For any emergency or medical purpose.

5.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 5.1 This policy will be implemented in “good faith” to promote the use of face masks in enclosed spaces and educate both staff and members of the public on the use of face masks as an additional source control to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19.
- 5.2 Persons with exemptions under section 4.2 will not be required to show proof of exemption.
- 5.3 Signage about the requirement to wear face masks will be posted at all entrances and within the facility at key locations.
- 5.4 Persons entering or remaining without a mask or face covering will be given a verbal reminder of the policy’s masking requirement.
- 5.5 Employees will be trained on the policy, including where and how to properly wear a mask or face covering, and how to help and respond to persons who do not have a mask or face covering.
- 5.6 Masks will be made available to ensure access is not denied.

6.0 RELATED DOCUMENTS

- 6.1 RMOW COVID-19 Safe Work Plan for the Resort Municipality of Whistler
- 6.2 RMOW COVID-19 Exposure Control Plan

Certified Correct:

Brooke Browning, Municipal Clerk