

# **Policies and Guidelines for the Reopening of Trinity United Church During the Covid-19 Pandemic**

## **STAGE 1**

- Trinity United Church members, member groups and staff using the building will adhere to reopening guidelines as stated in the Pacific Mountain Regional Councils document “Reopening Churches During COVID-19 Discernment and Guidelines” which adheres to the B.C. Provincial Health Guidelines.
- All community groups and tenants will be required to follow the Provincial Health Guidelines and Trinity United Reopening Guidelines where applicable.
- All groups wishing to use the building will first do a risk assessment. This assessment will include, but not limited to, such question as: Why the meeting must be in person? Will vulnerable people at the meeting be put at risk? Etc.
- Trinity United will communicate with all the user groups of the church, both internal and external, the date of the reopening and the expectations of these groups. Each group will be required to submit a safety plan to Trinity United Church prior to resuming their meetings.
- Safety plans from each group using the building must be posted while the meetings are being held.

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## **STAGE 1**

- All those using Trinity United Church buildings are required to maintain physical distancing. The wearing of masks is advised if physical distancing is not able to be maintained.
- Wherever possible, use online tools to connect with others virtually for services, meetings, and events.
- Trinity United Church members may meet in small groups up to 10 people while maintaining physical distancing. Tenants and community groups may meet in gatherings of up to 50 people while maintaining physical distancing. Everyone must adhere to the maximum number recommendations for all rooms within the building of Trinity United Church. (See attached room recommendations).
- Remind everyone to stay at home if they or any of their direct family members (or people they have regular contact with) are unwell.
- Trinity United will provide COVID-19 prevention supplies for groups while using the premises, such as soap, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, handwashing stations, and waste baskets.
- There should be no food or drink prepared or served on site.
- After a gathering, each group will clean and disinfect high touch surfaces such as doorknobs, countertops, bathrooms, pews, chairs, tables, and any other used areas or equipment. After a meeting is held in the sanctuary, and the pew cushions used, no meeting should follow for 3-4 days allowing time for the virus to no longer be present on the fabric. Alternatively, using a fabric friendly sanitizer, the pews can also be sprayed. Microphones, musical instruments, and sensitive equipment must be cleaned with appropriate sanitizer.
- There should be no congregational or choir singing. Soloists must be distanced from each other and from other participants. A helpful guide is double the usual physical distancing protocols (4m or 12 ft.).
- No sharing of Communion elements or Passing of the Peace.
- Use donation boxes or online giving. Do not pass the offering plate. Minimize all unnecessary contact whenever possible.
- It is requested that each group using the building keep a list of attendees for contact tracing to be used in case of a Covid-19 outbreak. Contact sheet must be retained by each group for a 30 day period.