

Re-opening child care centres during COVID-19
Provincial/territorial guidelines for minimizing risk:
Staff: child ratios, groupings and group sizes, physical space and social distancing
18 November 2020



NOTES:

- If guidelines for re-opening are not yet available, guidelines for emergency child care are provided.
- This information has been gathered from public sources. We have tried to make it as correct as possible. Please contact us to query any information included or missing.
- This information is not an exhaustive list of requirements and considerations in the guidelines; please consult hyperlinked guidelines for more details
- Some items in the guidelines use terminology such as: "suggested", "if possible", or "encouraged" rather than required. This is noted in the text.
- NA – Not Available

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Newfoundland and Labrador	<p>Regulated child care centres and family child care homes re-opened as of 11 May 2020</p> <p>Emergency child care ended 26 June 2020</p> <p>Alert level 2 in effect as of 25 June 2020 with specific requirements for child care.</p>	<p>COVID-19 Regulated Child Care Operations Policy (updated Sep 9)</p>	Licensed ratio	<p><u>Capacity: 100%</u></p> <p>Licensed group size</p> <p>Cohort of children & staff from each homeroom</p> <p>Visitors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One parent/guardian at one time in the main area for drop off or pick up • For orientation of new children, one parent/guardian can enter homeroom (following the requirements of a float staff). • Family home child care: No visitors other than the home's residents and children's family members 	<p>Non-medical masks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required for float staff in homerooms and all adults in the common area • Not required for children of any age and prohibited for children aged 2 and under • Not required in family home child care <p>Programming and materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensory play: only allowed for individual use • Permitted: play materials and equipment that can be disinfected or assigned for individual use • Materials not to be shared between homerooms <p>Outdoor play area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One homeroom at any time 	<p>Physical distancing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 metres • Large group activities (e.g. circle time, meal and nap time) • For one hour at the beginning and at the end of the day two homeroom cohorts may be gathered in one homeroom <p>Travel outside the premise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permitted: neighbourhood walks or public playgrounds within walking distance. • Prohibited: field trips
		<p>Guidelines for emergency child care</p>		<p>Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% capacity • 30 persons/site • No children under age 1 <p>Homeroom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% capacity • 10 persons (adults/children) <p>Visitors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One parent/guardian at one time in the main area for drop off or pick up 	<p>Programming:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid sensory play • Only play materials and equipment that can be properly sanitized and disinfected or assigned for individual use • Materials not to be shared between homerooms • Prohibited: stuffed toys • Only washable toys for children in diapers <p>Outdoor play area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 persons 	<p>Travel outside the premise: Prohibited</p>
Nova Scotia	<p>Licensed child care centres and family</p>	<p>COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for Child Care Settings (updated Oct 14)</p>	Licensed ratio	Centres:	<p>Programming and materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move activities outdoors if possible. 	<p>Physical distancing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 metres between staff and visitors,

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	<p>daycare homes re-opened June 15</p>	<p>Government provides hand sanitizer and single-use surgical masks to licensed facilities for the next six months.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-open at 50% capacity and can move up to full capacity if meeting public health measure Practice cohorting (staff and children stay in same groups throughout the day) <p>Family day homes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% capacity <p>Before and after care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cohorts of 15 children No mixing of cohorts of school-age and younger children <p>Visitors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only essential visitors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage individual play, minimize sharing of items <p>Mask policy for children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child care settings: No PPE for all child School settings: Non-medical mask for children in Grade 4 and up indoors if cannot physically distance <p>Mask policy for staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-medical masks indoors for staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> working with school-aged children and unable to physical distance from others unable to physical distance from other adults moving between cohorts. Medical mask if cannot physically distance from a child with COVID-19 symptoms 	<p>and between cohorts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In each play area/classroom, during outdoor play, pickup and drop-offs Not required within each group Beds/cots are 2-metre separated between children's heads <p>Travel outside the premise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permitted: walk around neighborhood and trails; public playgrounds Prohibited: field trips
<p>Nova Scotia did not provide child care for essential workers</p>						
<p>New Brunswick</p>	<p>Centres re-opened as of 19 May 2020</p> <p>13/10/2020 – Zone 5 (Campbellton region) is in Orange level (see level rules here).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daycares are open under strict guidance, virtual to be used for at-risk populations. Day camps are allowed. 	<p>COVID-19 Guidance for Early Learning and Childcare Facilities (13 Nov 2020)</p>	<p>Licensed ratio</p>	<p>Program: 100% capacity</p> <p>Groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 children plus staff Maximum 2 groups/room Cannot reconfigure during the day Movement of children between groups: no more than once/week <p>Staff who cover breaks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistent within the facility and the groups they support <p>Visitors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only essential visitors 	<p>Programming and materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permitted: play sets (slides, swings, monkey bars, etc.), including municipal play; shared toys (balls, bats, etc.) Prohibited: Water tables and sandboxes; holiday events, festivals and other activities that bring together parents and groups Check the Guidance's Appendix C for recommended use of play materials. <p>Outdoor play:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stagger outdoor times for to maintain physical distance between groups Can use their own or municipal play structures Water activities are permitted <p>Personal protection equipment (PPE):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children 5-12 are encouraged to wear masks in common areas, including within their groups Staff follow Mandatory Order (12 Nov 2020) to wear mask in "public indoor space" 	<p>Physical distancing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For facility personnel in common areas Relief educators maintain physical distance while in a group Not required within each group Children nap head to feet <p>Travel outside the premise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permitted: field trips and outings

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adults wear community masks if not being able to physical distance from one another 	
NA: New Brunswick did not release guidelines for emergency child care						
Prince Edward Island	Some centres re-opened May 22 nd , 2020 Phase 4 began on June 26 with new requirements for licensed child care.	Guidelines for re-opening child care for licensed child care centres (updated September 4)	Licensed ratio	Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% capacity Maximum 42 children Group size: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under 22 months: 6 children/2 staff/ total 8 people 22 months – school entry: 10 children/1 staff/ total 11 people School-age: 14 children/1 staff/ total 15 people Siblings are to be in the same group, unless one is an infant and the other is preschool-aged or school-aged 	Physical space: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Room size must accommodate physical distancing of 2 metres for everyone Outdoor play: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum 2 groups (of 11) at one time, preferably the same 2 groups For school aged centres, only one group of 15 may use the outdoor space at one time. 	Physical distancing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 metres between staff and as much as possible with children Travel outside the premise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 group of 10 children with 2 adults can go on a walk outside, single file
	Unlicensed child care centres and day camps can re-open as of June 1	Guidelines for re-opening for unlicensed child care centres (Updated June 1)		Capacity*: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 5 children if including infants and no more than 2 can be infants Up to 6 children if including only preschool and school-age children Up to 7 if including only school-age children *total capacity may have to be lower depending on the space to allow for physical distancing	Physical space: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surfaces (i.e. tables, toys, etc.) should be smooth, non-absorbent, durable and easily cleanable Outdoor play: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permitted: On-site outdoor play equipment that can be sanitized Maintain physical distancing at all times 	Physical distancing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 metres (including staff and children)
PEI did not release guidelines for emergency child care centres						
Quebec	Child care services outside MMC and	Action plan in the event of a second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic	Child care facilities	Child care facilities: 100% capacity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outside MMC & MRC: as of June 22 	Programming and materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play structures may not be used 	Physical distancing:

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	<p>MRC reopened May 11, 2020.</p> <p>Child care services in MMC and MRC reopened June 1.</p> <p>Home child care providers' rotating strike starting Sept 1.</p> <p>Coordinating Office (Bureau Coordonateur) provides 3 masks per person per day to home child care providers.</p>	<p>Résumé des informations pertinentes des SGÉE (12 Nov 2020)</p> <p>Mesure de prévention de la COVID-19 en milieu de travail: Recommandations intérimaires : Services de garde en installation [FR] (Quebec Public Health, updated August 25)</p> <p>H/S measures for workers and children in elementary schools and daycare services during COVID-19 (Updated June 16)</p> <p>Guide de normes sanitaires en milieu de travail pour les services de garde – COVID-19 [FR](updated May 2020)</p> <p>Guide de normes sanitaires pour les services de garde en milieu familial – COVID-19 [FR] (updated May 2020)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infant: 1/5 • Children 18-48 months: 1/8 • Children over 48 months: 1/10 <p>Home childcare:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return to normal ratio as of June 22 <p>Due to an ECE shortage, the ratio of qualified educators in a centre has been reduced from 2/3 to 1/3</p> <p>Reduce the ratios in the groups to make the principles set out above operational. Decisions about how reduce the ratios in the groups rests with the caregiver who must decide based on criteria such as the size of the day care service.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MMC & MRC: as of July 13 • Maximum group of 10 children and consistent staff for each group • 5/10/2020: School daycare services in Alert 4 level regions are organized based on the principle of stable class groups or by creating subgroups, with a 2-metre physical distance between groups <p>Home child care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 or 9* children. <p>*If there is more than one provider</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor outings and outdoor play are encouraged • Sand toys: permitted <p>PPE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure mask and face shield/safety glasses indoors and outdoors for staff who cannot physical distance from others • Masks with a clear window are recommended to be used with face shield for professionals working with children with special needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required between children, and between children and educators in each group. • 1 metre between groups of children • 2 metre between adults • Staff can assist children in activities such as brushing teeth and applying sunscreen. <p>Travel outside the premise: Permitted</p>
Please note: ** most of the conditions for emergency childcare in Quebec became conditions for fully re-opening childcare in the province**						
Ontario	<p>Centres were allowed to re-open as of June 12, 2020 but have many delayed re-opening.</p> <p>Emergency child care for essential workers ended on June 26, 2020.</p> <p>As of September 1, EarlyON Child and Family Centres and First Nation Child and Family Centres on reserve can reopen with in-person programming if</p>	<p>14/09/2020 – Government's webpage to report COVID-19 cases in schools and child care centres</p> <p>Operational Guidance During COVID-19 Outbreak: Childcare Re-opening (Version 4 November 2020)</p> <p>Building on How Does Learning Happen?: Pedagogical approaches to reopening licensed child care</p> <p>Operational Guidance During COVID-19 Outbreak: EarlyON Re-opening (August 2020)</p> <p>Before and After School Programs: Kindergarten – Grade 6: Policies and</p>	Licensed ratio (as of September 1 st 2020)	<p>Capacity: 100%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than one child care program can be offered per building as long as programs and cohorts can be separated. <p>Group size:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow licensing requirements for group size (as of September 1st 2020) • Each group should stay together throughout the day and should not mix with other groups. • Placement students do not account for group size but should be assigned to a specific group. • Children are permitted to attend on a part time basis, and as with children 	<p>PPE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All centre- and home-based child care staff and students are required to wear medical masks and eye protection (i.e., face shield), all other adults wear face covering or non-medical masks while inside in the child care premise. • Children in grades 4 and above are required, children grade 3 and below are encouraged to wear non-medical mask or face covering. No mask for children under 2. • Masks is not required outdoors for adults/children if able to physically distance • B/A programs: <p>Programming and materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move activities outside when possible. • Singing is allowed with restrictions: every person who is singing or playing must be separated from every other person by plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier 	<p>Physical distancing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 metres between cohorts • Encouraged between children is through setting play space and activities • Physical barriers are required if 2 groups are in the same room. • Increase the distance between cots/resting mats/playpens or place the children head to toe or toe to toe if the space is limited. • Consider removing cribs or placing infants in every other crib. • The use of blankets or cloths over clothing when holding infants and toddlers is no longer required. • EarlyON Centres: physical

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	participants preregister.	guidelines for school boards for the 2020-2021 school year (Nov 2020)		<p>attending full time, should be included in one group and should not mix with other groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum group size does not include Special Needs Resource staff. <p>Visitors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only essential visitors 	<p>and maintain two metres of distance from one another</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared spaces or equipment (washroom or shared objects) should be cleaned in between each use and used by one group at a time. Only toys and equipment that can be cleaned and disinfected (e.g., avoid plush toys). Sensory materials for single use (i.e. available to the child for the day) and labelled with child's name. Should have designated toys for each home room <p>Outdoor play:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule outdoor play by groups to facilitate physical distancing. If accommodate multiple groups, two metres of distance to be maintained between groups. Find alternate outdoor arrangements (community walk) when there are challenges securing outdoor play space. Play structures used by one cohort at a time. Staff must wash hands before and after applying sunscreen to children. Each child bring their own sunscreen. 	<p>distancing of 2 metres amongst all individuals, at all times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No self-serve or sharing food at meal times
		COVID-19 Guidance for Home Childcare Settings (Ottawa Public Health)	Licensed ratio		Have PPE supply for providers to wear when caring for a child with symptom	<p>Maintain physical distancing of at least 2 meters between children</p> <p>Parents/guardians to check their children's temperature daily before coming to the childcare setting.</p>
		COVID-19: Guidance for Child Care Settings (Toronto Public Health)	Licensed ratio	Avoid floating staff. If not, floating staff should use non-medical face mask or face covering. Programming must be planned in a manner that prevents cohorts from mixing throughout the day and over the course of the program	Child care operators maintain 1 to 2 week supply of PPE at all times Screening area must allow physical distancing. Otherwise, protective barrier (e.g. plexiglass) may be equipped If screening is not feasible for home child care operators on premise, screening may be conducted over the telephone or using video conferencing	<p>Physical distancing of 2m must be maintained between staff and children.</p> <p>Staff must wear a mask or face covering when physical distancing cannot be maintained, including when providing direct care</p>
		Guidelines for emergency child care	Maximum number of people in a centre (staff and children) 50 Ratios – NA from provincial government. Responsibility for defining specific	Group sizes NA from provincial government. Responsibility for defining specific guidelines is delegated to CMSMs and DDSABs (municipal level administrative units).	Encourage more physical space between children: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spreading children out into different areas, Staggering, or alternating lunchtime and outdoor playtime; and, 	Outdoor play at licensed child care sites is encouraged in small groups to encourage physical distancing.

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			guidelines is delegated to CMSMs and DDSABs (municipal level administrative units).		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporating more individual activities or activities that encourage more space between children. Do not use community playgrounds.	
Manitoba	<p><u>Services re-opened June 1</u> Some services re-opened as of May 4th</p> <p>Nursery schools offering expanded hours as part of temporary child care services and receiving funding on this basis, are required to <u>remain open over the lunch hour and provide supervision or sessions that are four hours or more in length</u> in September.</p> <p>Families using the temporary child care service must find alternate arrangements as of August 31.</p>	<p>04/09/2020 - <u>Mask use for children in ELCC facilities (centres, nursery schools and family child care homes)</u></p> <p>Coronavirus (COVID-19) Early Learning and Child Care Practice Guidance (Updated Sep 25)</p> <p>10/08/2020 - <u>Circular – Protocols for positive COVID tests connected to child care facilities</u> (August 10)</p> <p><u>Circular - Licensed child care facilities in schools or on school property</u> (June 23)</p> <p><u>Circular – COVID-19 Communications Structure for the Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Program Update</u>(June 22)</p> <p><u>Circular - Continued Re-Opening of Child Care Services For Facilities</u> (June 20)</p> <p><u>Circular – Temporary child care services Update (May 21)</u></p> <p><u>Circular – Protocols for child care facilities unchanged (29 April)</u></p>	Licensed ratio	<p>Capacity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>100% as of June 21</u> if able to follow group size requirements even if exceeds the maximum under current public health orders for indoor and outdoor settings <p>Group size:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the physical space available per child while meeting public health requirements. For childcare centres with larger total numbers of children on site, maximum group size is 30 children. Smaller group sizes are preferable. Staff and children should remain with the same group each day. <p>Drop off and pick up of children should be staggered to avoid crowding. A maximum number of 25 at one time is suggested.</p>	<p>Programming and materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for play experiences that help children learn why it is important to maintain appropriate distance Organize play activities with a visual cue about how many children should be in that area (e.g., two chairs next to an activity with markers or numbers taped to the floor). <p>PPE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mask are required for <u>children aged 9-12 in child care facilities as of September 8.</u> Non-medical masks for children in grade 4 (aged 8/9) and higher if cannot physically distance Children in grade 3 or under: not required Children may remove their masks while outside As of Nov 4, all child care centre staff are required to wear medical masks distributed by Dept. of Families. Family child care staff are not required to wear masks. <p><u>Dept. of Education distributed masks to facilities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 reusable masks per employee A supply of reusable masks for children (grade four and up) who attend a child care facility without their own mask 	<p>Physical distancing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 metres between all individuals Not required for siblings even if they are in different groups. 2 groups of children can be in the same room if able to maintain at least 4 metres between the groups <p>Child care facilities in schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical distancing between groups from both the child care centre and the school
		<u>Guidelines for emergency child care</u>		Maximum group size 16	Maximum facility size 16 Where possible, arrange spaces to encourage more separation.	Spread children out as much as possible with small groups in different rooms, or have a group outside while another is inside, as another way to encourage physical distance

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Saskatchewan	Child care centres can re-open as of June 8 Centres in schools re-opened May 4. Only child care centres in schools were closed to regular use; others continued to operate. Regulated family child care continues to operate.	Re-opening guidelines for child care facilities	Licensed ratio	Capacity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of August 4, maximum of 25 children per building space or in one defined area (separated by a barrier) for larger facilities are allowed. 	<p>Programming and materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce numbers of toys. Discontinue sensory play. Indoor shared spaces and structure that cannot be cleaned and disinfected should not be used <p>PPE – Not required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Except when in close contact with a sick child, masks and eye protection are not required in child care settings <p>Physical space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child care facilities located within special care or personal care homes must have private entrances and separate spaces so there is no interaction between children and residents of the home <p>Operators and staff should use telephone or video conferencing when possible to meet with staff and parents.</p> <p>Checking temperatures, detailed screening or testing of children and staff are not required.</p>	<p>Physical distancing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 metres among adults Minimize physical contact with children and encourage children to do so with each other (not apply for siblings). Increase the distance between nap mats. If space is tight, place children head to toe. <p>Travel outside the premise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreational travel requiring vehicles, such as field trips, are not permitted
		Additional information for licensed child care facilities: COVID-19	Licensed ratio	<p>Maximum size of any defined group - 8 children.</p> <p>Child care facilities can maintain operations with their existing capacity as long as children are separated into defined groups.</p> <p>Infants are to be cared for as a separate group.</p>	<p>Groups may be separated using barriers or furniture (i.e., may be in one room or space)</p> <p>A minimum of 3.7 square metres of useable floor area per child is required</p> <p>Outdoor play is not restricted to 8 children if 7 square metres per space is available in the outdoor play area.</p>	<p>Physical distancing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 metres Cots are placed as far apart as possible during naps with a recommendation of 2 metres. Keep the same children in the same group and same space. (Infants' sleep area can be an exception.)
Alberta	Centres re-opened on May 14th, 2020	Guidance for day care/ out of school care (2 Nov 2020) Guidance for preschools (2 Nov 2020)	Licensed ratio	Capacity: 100% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than one program can be offered per building (i.e. a preschools) 	Physical space: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programs that utilize a space that has other after-hour user groups (e.g. programs in churches, community) 	Physical distancing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 metres between cohort and adults

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	Regulated family child care continued to operate Preschools (nursery schools) opened June 1.			<p>and an out-of- school program) if able to separate between the programs</p> <p>Group size:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 people (including staff) • Children enrolled in multiple programs would be part of more than one cohort (e.g., for part-time child care programs, there may be one cohort on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and a different cohort on Tuesday and Thursday). Parents should consider limiting the number of cohorts their children are a part of as much as possible. • Out of school care: Assign children who attend the same school/class • Float staff assigned to no more than 3 designated cohorts and should limit physical interactions with children where possible. 	<p>centres) must ensure the space is cleaned before and after using the space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs located in seniors centres that do not have the ability to operate as a stand-alone program (separate entrance, separate washrooms, and separate play areas) will not be able to open. <p>Programming and materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared spaces, structures and toys that cannot be cleaned and disinfected between cohorts should not be used. • Consider activities outside that can be accessed by walking, are primarily outdoors and do not mix cohorts <p>PPE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff working with more than one cohort to wear non-medical masks at all times. • Non-medical masks for staff when having prolonged close interactions with children (e.g. assisting with feeding) • Non-medical mask for children in grades 4 and higher when access or exit via school common area. • Children can remove masks after being assessed for symptoms and permitted to enter the program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always practice head to toe sleep arrangement. <p>Travel outside the premise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field trips that involve group transportation, holiday events, performances or celebrations must be postponed or cancelled until further notice.
		Guidance for approved family day home/ group family child care programs (2 Nov 2020)		Licensed capacity	<p>PPE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-medical masks for staff when having prolonged close interactions with children (e.g. changing a diaper or assisting with feeding). • Children are not required but can wear masks. <p>Programming and materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid shared community playgrounds for outdoor play and instead use alternatives, such as walks and supervised play in parks and other safe open spaces. • Discontinue shared use of items that cannot be cleaned and disinfected 	<p>Physical distancing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize contact with children • 2 metre between adults • For naps, increase distance between sleeping mats/cots up to 2 metres if possible, and always practice head-to-toe placement.
		Guidelines for emergency child care	All licensing ratios are to be maintained.	Group size: 10 persons (staff and children)	Maximum program occupancy of 30	Where possible, social distancing practices should occur, for example, avoid close greetings like hugs or handshakes

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British Columbia	Child care centres were not mandated to close but many chose to close and some provided emergency care. Therefore, all guidelines during COVID 19 are the same.	COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for Child Care Settings (Updated 25 Sep 2020)	Normal licensing requirements for staff: child ratios to be maintained.	<p><u>Centres can safely operate at full capacity if choosing to do so.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The physical space requirements for licensed child care settings set out in the Child Care Licensing Regulation mean that child care centres have sufficient space to support 2-metre physical distancing between staff without reducing the number of children in care at any one time. <p>Grouping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize children into small groups/spread children out Limit the number of different staff who interact with children throughout the day, and avoid mixing groups <p>Visitors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not encouraged unless providing care and/or supporting inclusion of a child in care (e.g. child care assistants, ECE practicum students, speech language pathologist, etc.) 	<p>Programming and materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have children outside often, including for learning activities, snack time and play time. No extra cleaning or disinfection is required for playground structures. <p>Outdoor play:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> minimizing physical contact between each other. <p>PPE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not recommended in child care settings, beyond those used by staff as part of regular precautions. <p>Physical space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure adequate ventilation and open windows if possible. <p>There is no role for screening children or staff for specific symptoms, checking temperatures, or COVID-19 testing. Such activities are reserved for health care professionals.</p> <p>Pick-up and drop-off children outside the child care setting or at separate entrances. Conduct daily checks for respiratory illness at drop-off by confirming with parents.</p>	<p>Physical distancing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce prolonged face-to-face contact between staff and with children Increase the distance between nap mats or place children head-to-toe or toe-to-toe Younger children should be supported to have minimized direct contact with one another, while older children should be supported to maintain physical distance whenever possible. Not required for children from the same household (e.g., siblings) If using multi-seat strollers, seat the same children together consistently.
Please note: Centres were not mandated to close, but additional health/safety guidelines were released for centres that remained open						
Northwest Territories	Closure of centres during COVID-19 was not mandated	<p>Guidelines for licensed child care facilities during COVID-19</p> <p>ELCC program supports (Updated June 12)</p>	Normal licensing requirements for staff: child ratios to be maintained	NA	Use of medical masks is recommended for staff when cannot physically distance between staff members.	
NA: NT did not release guidelines for emergency child care as centres were not mandated to close.						
Nunavut	<p>As of 18 Nov 2020, all child care facilities should be closed.</p> <p>Services re-opened June 1st, 2020</p>	Child care facility guidelines for re-opening (June 1)	Licensed ratio	Infants and pre-school groups must be separated and where possible should be with dedicated staff	Reduced hours of care to ensure that a minimum of 1.5 hours is dedicated to cleaning and disinfecting	<p>Physical distancing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 metres required during drop-off and pick-up (no more than one parent/guardian enters at a time)

Province/ Territory	Current status of child care	Guidelines for licensed child care centres during COVID-19 Guidelines for emergency child care	Ratios per group of children	Capacity, maximum group size	Physical space, occupancy, use, equipment, total facility requirements	Additional information
Note: Nunavut did not offer child care for essential workers; therefore there are no guidelines for emergency child care.						
Yukon	Closure of centres during COVID-19 was not mandated.	<u>Guidance for child care centres and family day homes: COVID-19 (Updated September 1)</u> <u>Guidelines for licensed child care facilities during COVID-19 (additional) (Updated May 14)</u>	Licensed ratio	Grouping: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children should be grouped as much as possible. This means keeping a group of children and staff together without mixing with other groups of children. Close contact is permitted within a group or cohort Groups should remain consistent The same Educator should remain with their assigned group Visitors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only parents, guardians, Child Care Services Unit staff and special staff for learning support, such as speech language pathologists, are permitted. 	Programming and materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have children outside often, including learning activities, snack time and play time. Set up small group environments with 1 staff/group (e.g. set up two or three areas for coloring or doing crafts) Incorporate more individual activities or activities that encourage more space between children and staff. Reduce shared items, remove toys that encourage group play. Physical space: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure adequate ventilation and open windows if possible. Outdoor play: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public playgrounds and spaces may be used. PPE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not recommended in the child care setting 	Physical distancing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 metres among adults Staff minimize the frequency of direct physical contact with children and encourage children to minimize physical contact with each other. Younger children should be supported to have minimized direct contact with one another and to have physical contact with a single caregiver only, while older children should be supported to maintain physical distance (except for children from the same household). Increase distance between nap mats if possible. If space is tight, place children head-to-toe or toe-to-toe.
NA: Yukon did not provide emergency child care for essential workers and therefore no guidelines for emergency child care were provided.						