

BRIGADOON VILLAGE 2021 COVID-19 PROTOCOL

Last updated July, 12, 2021

Brigadoon Village's COVID Protocols are developed following Nova Scotia's COVID-19 Return to Overnight Camp Guidelines Updated June 30th, 2021. [covid-19-overnight-camping-guidelines.pdf](#) (novascotia.ca)

Throughout the summer, Brigadoon's COVID-19 Protocols may be modified to adapt to changes within the Overnight Camp Guidelines and to ensure we are in line with the Nova Scotia Public Health Order, including any travel restrictions. The Public Health Order can be found here: [health-protection-act-order-by-the-medical-officer-of-health.pdf](#) (novascotia.ca)

Brigadoon understands that in the event of a localized outbreak or increased community transmission, Public Health may stop or modify the delivery of camp programs if required. Depending on the circumstances, this could happen with little notice.

Cohorts & Physical Distancing:

Brigadoon will operate four cohorts during each camp session. Cohorts will consist of up to 15 campers, plus counsellors and volunteers to support each cohort. Each cohort will be assigned to a camper cabin. They will travel together, participate in programs together, and eat together.

Cohorts will stay distanced from one another as much as possible. If cohorts are eating in the dining hall, each cohort will sit 2 metres apart. If cohorts are participating in an all-camp activity outside (for example campfire, or talent night), they will be at least 2 metres apart from one another.

Within a cohort, campers do not have to keep the 2-metre distance, but it will be encouraged that activities support physical distancing as much as possible.

Mask Wearing:

Staff are required to wear a non-medical mask while inside when within 2 metres of campers and other adults. Campers are also required to wear a non-medical mask when inside. There are some exceptions which are outlined below.

Masks are also required:

- During camper arrival and departure (by everyone, inside and outside).
- When campers are travelling to all-camp activities and meals (until they are in the designated space).
- When campers/staff are moving inside their cabin's common space.
- For staff/med team when they are outside and are interacting with a camper or staff (outside their cohort) and are unable to maintain the 2 metres of distance between themselves and other campers/staff members.

Masks can be removed:

- When eating and drinking
- When participating in physical activity or on the waterfront/in a boat
- Once the cohort has settled into space where they will be engaging in an activity (distancing is encouraged)
- When campers/staff are sleeping and in their bedrooms/bathrooms
- When staff/volunteers are sitting at a desk or in a meeting (2 metres apart)
- When outside – campers/staff/volunteers can remove masks when outside and within their cohorts and distance from other cohorts by 2 metres.

Staff, volunteers, and campers must replace their mask when it becomes dirty and should bring enough masks for the duration of their stay (Brigadoon will have extras if required). Dirty masks will be stored in a labelled zip-locked bag with the campers' belongings. Brigadoon will also provide all campers and staff with a lanyard for easy mask storage when they are not required.

Additional mask information from public health can be found here:
Coronavirus (COVID-19): masks - Government of Nova Scotia, Canada
Wearing-a-mask-poster-en.pdf (novascotia.ca)

Hygiene Practices:

Frequent hand washing will continue to be an important part of camp life. Hands should be washed with soap and water for 20 seconds or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (with a minimum alcohol concentration of 60%) should be used if soap and water are not available. Public Health recommends hand hygiene often; including, but not limited to: entry indoors, between activities, before and after eating, drinking and handling food, after cleaning, toileting, sneezing, coughing, and blowing your nose.

Hand washing will be built into our camp schedule at Brigadoon. For example, campers will wash their hands in their cabins before meals and then use hand sanitizer when going into the dining hall. Hand sanitizer will be used before campers participate in activities. Handwashing posters will be posted in appropriate locations: Hand Washing Poster - Proper handwashing (novascotia.ca)

Cleaning & Infection Control:

Brigadoon will continue to follow its cleaning and disinfecting procedures which include:

- Cleaning and disinfecting camper common areas, high touch surfaces and bathrooms twice a day
- Cleaning and disinfecting dining hall (and bathrooms) between meals
- Cleaning program spaces at least daily
- Deep cleaning site between camp sessions

In addition, the following will be in place this year:

- Cleaning and disinfecting high touch surfaces in camper/staff bedrooms
- Cleaning and disinfecting high touch surfaces in program areas/common areas
- Cleaning and disinfecting program spaces and equipment between cohorts
- Training all staff on cleaning and disinfecting and providing them with WHIMIS training

Food Service:

Meals served in the dining hall will include breakfast, lunch and dinner. Snacks will be brought to the camper cabins and eaten outdoors (or in the cabins if it is raining).

All meals and snacks will be prepared in our Kitchen by our Food Service Team. A designated cabin lead will serve the prepared meals to the campers (and other staff) during mealtimes and snack times. There will be no self-serve stations, buffets or family-style foodservice this year.

Cohorts will have designated seating in the dining hall for the duration of their camp stay. Each Cohort will have a carton which their meals will come to their table, along with any required condiments, drinks, etc. They will then be served by their cabin lead as mentioned above. Specialized diets will still be prepared on individually wrapped plates in the kitchen, as they have been in the past, but will come to the table with the rest of the cohort's meals.

Movement around the dining hall will be limited and the dining hall will only be used for eating (no additional programs/activities between meals). Once the dining hall is clean, it will be closed until the next meal service. The Food Service Team will continue to practice advanced food safety and cleaning as they have always done.

Each cabin will have a water bottle filling station and snacks available for staff/campers. These will not be available in the dining hall. Cabin leads will wash camper water bottles in the dishwasher at the end of each day.

Sleeping and Accommodations:

One camper cabin will house a cohort (including counselling staff and volunteers) for each session. Each camper cabin has 5 bedrooms, 3-4 bathrooms/showers, and a common space. The cohort will spread out between these rooms as much as possible.

Sleeping arrangements will be planned to ensure minimum distances of 2 metres between campers or staff and to ensure that the minimum number of people are assigned to each room. Assigned sleeping arrangements will be in place before anyone arrives, along with which end of the bed the camper/staff's head should be. Cabin rooms will also be assigned to a bathroom/shower to use for the duration of their stay. Windows within the cabin rooms can be opened to encourage air to be distributed throughout.

Campers/staff belongings will stay in the cabin rooms and not in the common spaces. Cabins will have shared items that are difficult to clean removed (for example books and games).

Facilities (Capacities, signage):

Brigadoon is fortunate to have a lot of outdoor and indoor spaces in which to spread out. Each indoor space will have signage to remind campers and staff of the public health measures in place for that space (for example, mask-wearing, capacity limits and hand hygiene).

Additional measures we will have in place include:

- One-way directional systems;
- Areas 'closed' once cleaned;
- Physical distancing spots for lining up;
- Removal of shared items that are not easily cleaned.

Camp Programs:

We will be running most of our camp programs with minor adaptations to meet all public health guidelines. This includes:

- Moving programs outside when appropriate;
- Scheduling changes to ensure enough distance between cohorts (including during transitions and to allow for cleaning and sanitizing between groups);
- Limiting program materials to ones that can be cleaned/sanitized between users;
- Having enough materials for each cohort when possible;
- Removing items that cannot be easily cleaned and disinfected (for example, costumes, stuffed animals, sensory objects).

We will not run the following programs (this list could be expanded):

- Cooking programs, including late-night cooking;
- Pursuit programs;
- Briga-Battle Relay

Site Visitors, Record Keeping:

All visitors to the site (including delivery drivers) are required to sign the contact log which is located outside of our office trailer.

Staff and volunteers are required to sign in and out when they are coming and going from the site (including on their time off) at the official trailer.

If staff members are going 'into town,' they are responsible for keeping track of where they have been in case there is an exposure to COVID-19 at the location they are visiting.

COVID-19 Testing:

Testing will be an important part of our COVID-19 protocols at Brigadoon.

Staff and volunteers: All staff and volunteers will be required to have an asymptomatic test 48-72 hours before moving on to the site. Once staff have arrived on-site, all staff (day staff and overnight staff) will take part in the COVID-19 Screening program Brigadoon. This is an on-site self-administered test taken twice a week.

Camper: All campers will be asked to have an asymptomatic test 48-72 hours before arriving on-site (but it is not mandatory). Brigadoon will ask whether the camper has had a test and the results of that test during camper check-in.

The list of asymptomatic testing locations in NS can be found here: [document_render.aspx \(nshealth.ca\)](#)

Campers from NB have to call 811 to book their test.

COVID-19 Vaccinations:

Staff and volunteers: All staff and volunteers will be encouraged to get their first vaccination before they arrive at the site. Brigadoon will make accommodations for them to have their second vaccination if it happens to fall during their contract. As part of the pre-camp COVID-19 paperwork, Brigadoon will ask if staff members have been vaccinated as well as for the date of their vaccination.

Campers: Brigadoon will encourage all campers to get vaccinated if they are eligible (age, condition, etc.) Brigadoon will ask for the camper's vaccination information as part of the pre-camp COVID-19 screening document.

Daily Screening & Staying Home:

Before arriving on-site, campers (and their parent/guardian dropping them off) will have to screen themselves and their camper before leaving for camp. They will also be asked these questions upon arrival. No one should come to the site if they have COVID-19 symptoms or if they answer positively to any of the other COVID-19 screening questions determined by the province of Nova Scotia.

Campers will be monitored daily by their assigned medical staff and staff will self-monitor daily. If someone is feeling unwell, they must notify their supervisor (staff) or counsellor/medical lead (campers). Their manager and medical lead will direct them on the next steps including leaving the site and getting a COVID-19 test.

The most up-to-date pre-camp and daily checklist can be found here: [Daily-COVID-checklist-en.pdf \(novascotia.ca\)](#)

Medical Centre at Camp:

While care of our campers continues to take priority at camp, we must ensure our medical staff can practice in the safest conditions. Our medical centre's policies and procedures will be adapted where necessary to reflect changes in nursing care at the IWK Health Centre. This will include PPE, Medical Centre cleaning, and hand hygiene. In addition, there are some procedures and/or treatments we will not be able to do at camp this year due to our facility and safety concerns.

Camper Arrival & Departure:

Campers will have a designated drop-off and pick-up time to ensure lower numbers in lines during our arrival process.

Campers will only be allowed to have one adult dropping or picking them up.

Adaptions to Arrival Day & Departure Day include:

- Campers will only be allowed to have one adult dropping them off or picking them up.
- Campers and adults will be pre-screened when they arrive before they leave their vehicles.
- Campers and adults will be asked to wait in their vehicles until they are ready to be checked in/out by our camp director and medical staff.
- When a camper has completed check-in, they can get back in their vehicle and go to the cabin where they are to be dropped off.
- The adult dropping them off will not be allowed into the camper cabins.
- A designated bathroom will be available for adults who are dropping campers off.
- We will not be hosting a parent reception and families will not be allowed to stay for opening ceremonies
- Masks will be worn by everyone during the arrival and pick-up times.

Pre-Camp Communications with Families:

Communication with families and campers before arrival at camp will be important to manage expectations and the safety of our campers and staff.

Camper families will receive a copy of Brigadoon's COVID-19 protocols in early July. They will also have an opportunity to participate in a zoom call where the protocols will be reviewed, and Brigadoon will answer any questions. Highlights to be included in this communication include:

- Camper vaccine and testing expectations
- Minimizing potential exposures of COVID-19 before arriving at camp
- Expectations to pick up your camper if they show signs of COVID-19 at camp
- Safety precautions which must be followed at camp

The week before arriving at camp, families will receive an email outlining the protocols again. Families will then have to log into their CampBrain account and complete the following information:

- Confirm they have read the protocols and ensure they (and their campers) will follow them
- Confirm if their camper has had a vaccination and the date(s) received
- Confirm that they will be available to pick up their camper if they are showing signs of COVID-19
- Complete a pre-screening (daily screening) checklist

Pre-Camp Communications with Staff:

Communication with staff and volunteers before they arrive on site is also extremely important to ensure we have a safe and successful summer. Before staff and volunteers arriving on-site, they will be given the COVID-19 protocols to review, in addition to their staff handbook. Brigadoon will host a virtual meeting to highlight important points of the protocols and answer any questions before staff arriving on site.

When staff/volunteers arrive on-site they will complete a form with the following information:

- Confirm they have read the protocols and they will follow them
- Confirm their vaccination status and the date(s) received
- Confirmed they had a COVID-19 Test before arriving on site
- Complete a pre-screening (daily screening) checklist

Staff & Volunteer Expectations:

All staff and volunteers will be expected to adhere to the Health Protection Order, even while away from work, as well as to follow all of Brigadoon's COVID-19 Protocols while on-site at Brigadoon (even on their time off). Staff and volunteers must always adhere to Public Health measures to ensure the safety of themselves, their coworkers, and the campers.

Outbreak Management:

In the event there is a case of COVID-19 confirmed to be connected to Brigadoon Village, we will work with Public Health and follow all actions and directions provided to us. Public Health is responsible for case management and contact follow-up.



Other Resources:

Health Protection Act Order: [health-protection-act-order-by-the-medical-officer-of-health.pdf](#) (novascotia.ca)

COVID-19 Return to Recreation Guidelines: [COVID-19-Return-to-Recreation-Guidelines.pdf](#) (novascotia.ca)

COVID-19 Return to Sport Guidelines: [COVID-19-Return-to-Sport-Guidelines.pdf](#) (novascotia.ca)