

Pandemic Protection for Protests

To help everyone stay safe from COVID-19 while we rally for justice, The Stand Community Organizing Centre with the support of Student Medical Society of Saskatchewan is providing masks, hand sanitizer, and safety information for rallies and protests.



If you're part of a group that's planning a rally, protest, or any type of action that will bring together a large group, email us at organize@thestandcentre.ca. We can provide information, supplies, and a team of volunteers to make it easier for you to:



Communicate with participants – before and during the event.

Plan for day-of-action safety – provide masks and hand sanitizer at the event.

COMMUNICATE WITH PARTICIPANTS BEFORE AND DURING EVENT:

- Maintain a physical distance of 2 meters between people of different households. Encourage attendees to spread out.
- Hand hygiene (washing or sanitizing your hands) is better than wearing gloves. Encourage attendees to use hand sanitizer frequently.
- Don't share food, drinks or objects like signs.
- Limit yelling and shouting as this spreads droplets. Encourage attendees to share their message by creating signs and using noisemakers like drums.
- Wear a mask if you have one. Continuous mask wearing is recommended because 2 meter physical distancing may not always be maintained.
- If you're wearing a mask and need to take it off, sanitize your hands first and avoid touching the parts of the mask that touch your face.
- Encourage attendees to stay home if:
 - They're not feeling well,
 - They are at high risk for severe illness from COVID-19 (For example older adults or people with underlying health conditions),
 - They will be in close contact with people who are at high risk for severe illness from COVID-19 in the 2 weeks following the event.
- Remind attendees to monitor themselves for symptoms after the event and get tested if they have symptoms

Additional Information:

How to wear a mask:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/-/media/files/coronavirus/info-for-health-care-providers/ppe/covid-19-sha-masking-for-public.pdf>

DAY OF ACTION PLAN

Supplies

The Pandemic Protection for Protests team can provide:

- *Hand sanitizer and masks:* for volunteers and participants
- *Volunteers:* to distribute hand sanitizer and masks
- *Signage:* to identify distribution stations
- *70% alcohol wipes:* for cleaning mics and equipment between speakers.



IMPORTANT:

We will ensure that these supplies are not left unattended for people to use themselves. Unattended hand sanitizer poses risks: 1) consumption risk (hand sanitizer has a high alcohol content and is at risk of being consumed); and 2) contamination risk (hundreds of people touching the same bottle).

Volunteer Stations

The Pandemic Protection for Protests team can set up volunteer stations with signage along the main entry points to ensure people are offered masks and hand sanitizer upon arrival.

- Each station will have at least 2 people - one giving out masks, one dispensing hand sanitizer.
- The volunteers will be asked not to impose masks and sanitizer on people but invite and motivate them to take part: "Help everyone stay safe; wear a mask; sanitize your hands."
- Volunteers at the stations will use gloves, masks, tongs for handing out masks, and face shields for dispensing hand sanitizer.
- The stations can stay open for the duration of opening speeches, and for any concluding speeches.

Microphone Safety

We can also provide volunteers to:

- Clean mics and stands between speakers with 70% alcohol wipes.
- Dispense hand sanitizer for speakers before they take the mic.

