

Nova Scotia Body Artist Guide to Return to Work during COVID-19 Pandemic

The following is the Nova Scotia Body Artist Guide to Return to Work during COVID-19 Pandemic. These guidelines are required as a body artist cannot establish a physical distance of at least 2M from their client. Physical distancing is a very important precaution to limit the spread of COVID-19. Open layout studios will have stations at least 6ft apart, will utilize barriers, or appointments will be staggered in respect to physical distancing guidelines. All clients and artists will wear non-medical masks.

These guidelines will be used by each studio to develop their own site specific plans and be added to our already robust Infection Prevention Plans, which we keep on hand and available at our inspector's request.

Amendment for higher risk services or procedures that involve areas under a clients mask:
The client can now remove non-medical masks for such services only when the body artist wears a non-medical mask accompanied with a face shield. Client may only remove mask for allotted time of the service. Client must be made aware the risk associated with mask removal. Businesses with employees can only allow clients to remove masks if all employees are comfortable with a non-masked client.

Staff Safety Measures

- Staff will review existing disinfection and PPE legislation found in the Safe Body Art Act before reopening.
- Staff will be screened daily and deemed to be in good health with no symptoms of COVID-19 (as listed at <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/when-to-seek-help/#symptoms>), will have not travelled by air or out of province for 14 days. If you have been out of the province or country in the past 14 days or are feeling unwell, please do not enter the business. If you are feeling unwell, please do the 811 on-line COVID 19 assessment <https://811.novascotia.ca> and follow the direction provided. The exception for this is staff travelling within the Atlantic bubble, they will not have to self isolate upon returning to Nova Scotia.
- A staff registry (date and time of work shifts) must be kept to facilitate any necessary contact tracing by Public Health.
- Nova Scotia body artists currently use PPE such as non-medical masks, aprons and sleeves for certain procedures including reprocessing tools. Barrier films or sleeves are used over high touch surfaces during certain procedures. Disposable drapes are used and disposed of after each client. Gloves are worn for all procedures.

- Additional PPE use will include staff wearing cloth or disposable non-medical masks in common areas, as well as a new mask for each procedure.
- All staff will continue to follow appropriate standards on disposal of PPE.
- All staff will continue to follow proper hand hygiene.
- Should staff develop symptoms of Covid-19 at work, they will go home immediately and public health will be promptly notified.

Client Safety Measures

- New procedures for clients will be posted on the door, in stations & washrooms, as well as on social media and websites where applicable. These will also be communicated directly to the client at time of booking via phone or email.
- Clients will be screened when booking to ensure they, and all in their household, are in good health with no symptoms of COVID-19 (as listed at <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/when-to-see-help/#symptoms>), and that they have not travelled by air or out of province for 14 days. **With the exception of the Atlantic provinces.**
- Upon arrival the client should again be asked if they are feeling well. If they are not, they must be asked to cancel the appointment as well as to go home and complete the 811 online self-assessment.
- **A client registry (name, phone number, date and time of visit) must be kept to facilitate any necessary contact tracing by Public Health. A client waiver with this information would suffice. For anyone in a clients bubble who accompanies them, there must be a contact form for them as well.**
- Clients will wear their own non-medical masks or be provided one (studios may charge a fee for one). Client masks may not be removed until the client leaves the studio.
- Appointment only, with appointments staggered so no two clients arrive at the same time. No one without an appointment will be admitted.
- Customer consultations will be done virtually online whenever possible to reduce the number of visits into the studio.
- Clients will keep their belongings with them in a single, closed bag. Coats will not be hung.
- Clients will clean hands upon entry at a hand washing, or sanitizing station, we provide. Before the actual procedure, they will wash their hands at the hand washing station.
- **Clients may now bring a person to accompany them from within their chosen bubble. Artist, client and their accompanied person must maintain a 6 foot distance from other groups within the business. The support person will fill out their own form for contact tracing.**
- Payments will be taken only with a card, etransfer, or correct change (no change to be given).
- Payments will be taken in a way that does not compromise social distancing.
- Aftercare information will be provided online, we will not be handing out any paper products.

Documentation

- Client release forms have been revised to affirm that there are no symptoms of Covid-19. (as listed at <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/when-to-seek-help/#symptoms>)
- Client release forms have been revised to request the studio be contacted if the client develops symptoms of Covid-19 within 14 days. The client is also advised to contact 811 should they develop symptoms of Covid-19.
- Online release forms will be used when possible. When paper is used, the pen, clipboard, and area it is filled out in will be disinfected immediately after.
- A client registry (name, phone number, date and time of visit) and a staff registry (date and time of work shifts) must be kept to facilitate any necessary contact tracing by Public Health. For anyone in a clients bubble who accompanies them, there must be a contact form for them as well.

Studio Environment

- Nova Scotia body artists will continue to maintain infection control guidelines and standards that have been in place in our studios for decades to minimize the risk of exposure to BBP and other potentially infectious material and disease. Our studios have already been designed to have safe flow of traffic, safe engineering controls built into our studio design and staff trained in work practice controls to operate safely.
- Everyone in the studio will maintain a 6ft social distance, excepting the artist and client they are working on. Tape barriers may be placed on the floor where appropriate.
- Staff will continue to clean and disinfect all environmental surfaces with appropriate commercial disinfectants before and after daily opening to the public and after each client interaction.
- Staff will continue to utilize disposable barriers for work surfaces, client areas and for application equipment including machine and clipcord bags, drape sheets and dental bibs, etc.
- Inks, disinfectants, disposable needles and tubes and other critical items will continue to be handled and stored in a safe way, as per the Nova Scotia Safe Body Art Act; the same as we have always done.
- Food and drink will continue to not be permitted in work stations. Client may continue to bring their own beverage, the container must be taken away with them.

- Open layout studios will have stations at least 6ft apart, will utilize barriers, or appointments will be staggered in respect to physical distancing guidelines.
- Maximum number of people per studio (based on studio layout).
- Portfolios, jewelry, etc will not be handled by clients. Decor items that could be handled will be removed. Any surface a client could touch will be non-porous and easily disinfected.
- Deliveries will be received while wearing gloves and with respect to social distancing. Service trades people will wear gloves and masks and practice social distance.

Nova Scotia body artists are prepared to implement these guidelines immediately. We look forward to continuing to work with the Nova Scotia government to ensure our safe and timely reopening.