

Public Health Orders and Churches

The full current Manitoba public health orders, effective August 7, 2021, are available here: https://manitoba.ca/asset_library/en/proactive/20212022/orders-soe-08052021.pdf. The orders most directly relevant to churches are numbers 1-5 and 16. The guidance around these orders from public health is available here: <https://manitoba.ca/covid19/prs/index.html#guidance>. The following is the guidance most directly relevant to churches.

Gatherings

Outdoor weddings, funerals, or other organized gatherings cannot exceed the lesser of (a) 1,500 persons; or (b) 50% of the capacity of the location where the wedding or funeral is conducted or 150 persons, whichever is greater.

Indoor banquets or receptions must not exceed 50 persons or 50% of the capacity of the premises, whichever is greater. **Outdoor banquets or receptions** must not exceed the lesser of (a) 1,500 persons; or (b) 50% of the capacity of the location where the wedding or funeral is conducted or 150 persons, whichever is greater.

Facilities open to the public must implement measures to ensure that members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from other members of the public at the facility.

There are no other *general* restrictions on indoor or outdoor gatherings on either private or public property. For other restrictions on specific types of gatherings, see the public health orders above. It is strongly recommended that unvaccinated persons wear masks in gatherings, especially indoors.

Worship Services

Indoor religious services must not exceed 150 persons or 50% of the capacity of the premises, whichever is greater. Measures must be implemented to ensure that persons attending the service are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from other persons at the service, other than persons who reside at the same private residence.

Outdoor religious services must not exceed 1,500 persons or 50% of the capacity of the location where the service is held, whichever is lesser. Measures must be implemented to ensure that persons attending the service are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from other persons at the service, other than persons who reside at the same private residence.