

# The Jericho Arts Centre (JAC) Communicable Disease Plan

The intention of the JAC Communicable Disease Plan (CDP) is to promote the health and safety of the entire JAC community, including production team members, staff, volunteers, audience members, and visitors, by providing information that can be used to prevent the contraction and spread of communicable diseases, in addition to the response plan in the event of someone taking ill from COVID-19 at JAC.

A communicable disease may be defined as any illness caused by an infectious agent or a toxic product that can be transmitted from one person to another.

## Scope

Communicable diseases falling within the scope of this Plan are those typically caused by viruses, bacteria, fungi, or parasites and normally spread through direct or indirect human contact. Some examples of communicable diseases include:

Coronavirus  
Influenza  
Hepatitis A  
Norovirus  
Meningococcal Meningitis  
Mumps  
Measles  
Rubella  
Tuberculosis

## Prevention

Preventing the spread of communicable diseases involves everyone taking measures to reduce the risk of transmission. Vaccines, antibiotics, antivirals, innate immunity, and/or acquired immunity can provide some protection against certain communicable diseases but not all communicable diseases are treatable, and current treatments are not guaranteed to protect against all communicable disease. As a result, it is important to limit the spread of a communicable disease before it has the potential to cause serious complications. Below are some common strategies to limit the spread:

- Staying at home when you are feeling ill.
- Frequent hand washing or using hand sanitizer.
- Sneezing or coughing into your arm or elbow.
- Routinely cleaning and disinfecting surfaces.
- Practicing a healthy lifestyle by getting some exercise, eating well, and getting a sufficient amount of sleep every night.
- Keeping up to date with immunizations and vaccinations

## **Identify**

The level of risk of certain communicable diseases, including COVID-19, may increase from time to time or on a seasonal basis. This may occur at a local or regional level, or within the workplace. Recognizing the signs and symptoms of a communicable disease and understanding the modes of transmission is the first step in reducing the incidence of disease associated with communicable diseases. Signs and symptoms will vary depending on the disease, but common characteristics associated at the onset of most communicable diseases typically include fever and other flu-like symptoms: achiness, upset stomach, fatigue, fever, and headaches.

The Friends of the Jericho Arts Centre Society (FOJAC) and United Players of Vancouver (UP) are jointly responsible for ensuring the safety of artists and audience entering the Jericho Arts Centre. This plan is designed with a division of responsibilities in mind, with FOJAC responsible for the overall safety of the building, and UP responsible for the day-to-day safety of operation in the lead up and during the run of one of their shows.

When a guest company is in, responsibilities assigned to UP will be undertaken by that company.

The Jericho Arts Centre plan takes precedence over incoming group's plans, though an incoming group's plan may be stricter for safety if they desire.

Safety is paramount: the goal is to establish safe, straightforward practices that meet and exceed provincial guidelines at all times, while still opening the building to use.

## **Responsibility of FOJAC**

It is the responsibility of FOJAC to book guest companies and other renters. Incoming guest companies and renters will be informed by FOJAC of the Communicable Disease Plan, and renters must demonstrate that they are able to comply with it and with public health safety directives.

## **General**

1. Anyone having symptoms of a communicable disease is discouraged from entering the building. Those working for United Players or FOJAC exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 cannot enter the building until symptoms have disappeared.

2. SYMPTOMS of COVID-19 - symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, chills, new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and new muscle aches or headache.
3. Plexiglass barriers are to remain in place at box office and concession stand.
4. Adequate hand washing and hand sanitizing facilities will be provided and checks made to ensure these are stocked with supplies. Supplies to include hand sanitizer of at least 60% alcohol. These to be provided at entrances and other well-marked and illuminated locations throughout the venue, both front of house and backstage. Disinfectant wipes also will be distributed for FOH and backstage workers to clean props, instruments, touch points etc.,

### **Day to Day operations**

5. Any audience member having symptoms of a communicable disease is discouraged from entering the building. Those working for United Players cannot enter until such symptoms disappear.
6. Workers must self-check on the day they intend to enter the theatre.
7. All production teams must be double vaccinated.
8. It is acknowledged that mask wearing is a personal choice.
9. Workers in a leadership position, TD, SMS, FOH Managers are to be made aware of the Communicable Disease Plan.
10. Steps must be taken to ensure workers understand what steps to be taken should they or another worker or a patron be taken ill while in the building –
  - If illness is severe call 911
  - The person attending should –
    - take their name and contacts
    - Wash their hands
    - Provide mask (if not already wearing one)
    - Arrange for person ill to go home immediately and self-isolate. If it is not possible that they go home immediately they should wait for transportation in the isolation area.
    - Upon learning of the worker who has been taken ill, the isolation area and all other touch points are to be cleaned and disinfected right away.
11. Workers need to be made aware of the need to wash or sanitize hands: upon entry, after contact with others, or in handling a shared props or piece of equipment. Concession workers need to be especially aware of the need to continue to wash or sanitize hands during their shift.
12. The first aid kits in the building are to be checked regularly and items replaced as needed.

## **Responsibility of United Players (or guest company)**

### **General**

1. Any audience member having symptoms of a communicable disease is discouraged from entering the building. Those working for United Players or FOJAC exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 cannot enter the building until symptoms have gone. .

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, chills, new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and new muscle aches or headache.

2. All ticket sales are final, but should a cancellation be necessary due to illness, please contact patronservices@unitedplayers.com and we will try to change your booking to another performance (subject to availability).
3. Workers are to be instructed in what steps to be taken should they or another worker or an audience member be taken ill with communicable disease symptoms while in the building –
  - If illness is severe call 911
  - The person attending should -
    - take their name and contacts
    - wash their hands
    - provide mask (if not already wearing one)
    - arrange for person ill to go home immediately.
    - if it is not possible that the person ill go home immediately, they should wait for transportation in the isolation area.
    - After the person taken ill has departed, the isolation area and all other touch points are to be cleaned and disinfected right away.
  - Workers to be instructed in the details of the Communicable Diseases Safety Plan, particularly -
    - that the wearing of masks is a personal choice.
    - that they should wash or sanitize their hands regularly: upon entry, after contact with others, or in handling a shared props or piece of equipment.

## **Performance:**

### **Days of Performance:**

- Any audience member having symptoms of a communicable disease is discouraged from entering the building. Those working for United Players or FOJAC exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 cannot enter the building until symptoms have gone.
- The wearing of masks is at the wearer's discretion.