

Road to Recovery – BC’s plan to re-open the economy

Updated May 7, 2020

“[BC’s Restart Plan](#)” is a four-phased plan, with phase one starting immediately. Key to the plan is its “Five Principles” for businesses and residents:

- Stay home if you have signs of sickness
- Maintain personal hygiene (e.g. good hygiene with a focus on diligent hand washing, avoiding physical interaction with others, use of PPEs)
- Promote environmental hygiene (e.g. diligent cleaning of surfaces, use touch-less technology)
- Practice safe social interactions (e.g. only gather in small groups, maintain distancing practices)
- Establish best practices in organizations (e.g. businesses should have strict physical distance guidelines for common areas like offices and kitchens, and modify environment with tools like plexiglass where necessary)

Sectors will be tasked to establish practices aligned with the [Public Health and Safety Guidelines](#). Government officials will monitor to ensure practices align with the [Public Health and Safety Guidelines](#) and [WorkSafeBC](#). The Provincial Health Officer will continue to provide input and advice as needed throughout the review process. The timing of each phase will be predicated on how the situation is progressing.

Four phases to re-open the economy		
Phase One	<i>Immediate (Underway)</i>	Status quo – essential services continue. BC did not shut down as many types of businesses as other Canadian jurisdictions. Businesses that are currently shut down are encouraged to look at ways to reopen as new Phases approach.
Phase Two	<i>Mid-May</i>	Open up of several non-essential sectors, including: office worksites, retail, salons, health services (including dentistry, RMTs, chiropractors), culture/recreation, provincial parks (May 14), child care; restaurants, cafes, and pubs (with sufficient distancing measures).
Phase Three	<i>June to September</i>	Further opening of other non-essential sectors, including hotels and resorts, broader reopening of parks (June) , film industry (June/July), movies/symphony (but only small scale – July), post-secondary education (September), K-12 (only partial return this school, resume more fully Sept).
Phase Four	<i>TBD</i>	Large gatherings such as conventions, sports, concerts, international tourism. <i>Conditional on at least one of wide vaccination, community immunity, or successful treatments.</i>

WorkSafeBC has published [industry-specific](#) resources which include checklists, templates, education and training materials, signage, and other tools businesses to support businesses in reopening. WorkSafeBC will continue workplace inspections to ensure businesses are in compliance with provincial health orders.

This brief will be updated as more information is released.