



Based on guidance from AFM Local 47, Burbank, CA

TMA149 COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for Rehearsal, Live Performance, Sound Recording and Screen-Based Scoring

November 12, 2020

The Province of Ontario has jurisdiction under the Occupational Health and Safety Act to set rules and regulations to keep workers, including performers, safe. Included in our guidelines are provincial requirements, current as of the above date, pertaining to music rehearsals, performances, and recording sessions. Wherever a conflict exists or may arise between our guidelines and the Province's, the terms from the Province shall take precedence.

[O.Reg. 263/20](#) and [O. Reg. 364/20](#) are the most up to date regulation determining rules for performers from the Province of Ontario.

1. Facilities

- a. Safety/Health Officer on-site throughout each session
 - i. Identify a management individual with chief responsibility for COVID-19 prevention/response; provide workers with contact information regarding COVID-19 response <https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/>
- b. Minimum requirements
 - i. Hand sanitizer, masks, gloves, paper bags (for masks when not in use) for participants
 - ii. Adequate air circulation following guidelines of fully replenished air every 4-5 minutes where possible
 - iii. Washrooms should be equipped with paper towels rather than air dryers
- c. Adjustments to existing entrance/exit, washroom and catering protocols
 - i. Assess adequate time allotments for entrance/exit and washroom breaks in the context of sectionals and overdubbing recordings
 - ii. Assess catering practices to ensure that
 - a) Beverages are either in single-use containers or brought from home and in either case, promptly removed at the end of the session
 - b) Catering is either individually boxed, brought from home or prohibited
- d. Stage, booth and other on-site facilities to be cleaned and sanitized
 - i. Full-site sanitizing after each day of sessions
 - ii. Sanitizing of gear and specific work areas after each session
 - iii. No refuse or trash to be left on site
- e. Gear/Equipment
 - i. Outside gear (i.e. gear brought in by engineers, etc.) to be restricted or sanitized
 - ii. Equipment and instruments provided on the stage to be sanitized, such as:

www.tma149.ca

November 12, 2020

Based on guidance from AFM Local 47, Burbank, CA

- a) Headphones
 - b) Chairs/baffles/music stands
 - c) Pianos and other stage-bound musical instruments
 - d) Recording gear and equipment
- iii. Cartage companies to ensure sanitary handling and delivery of encased instruments
2. Social distancing and safety
- a. The number of musicians and other participants per session will be guided by the parameters of social distancing for each facility.
 - b. When public health regulations allow for performers to not wear masks for the purposes of the performance, the performers, leader, and engager may agree that masks shall not be worn for the purpose of the particular work, production or performance.
 - i. Otherwise all participants should endeavour to wear masks at all times except during actual performance by vocalists, wind and brass players.
 - c. Floor plans shall be created for each stage and booth, with layouts that will endeavour to provide for the following:
 - i. When public health regulations allow for performers to be closer than 2 metres for purposes of the performance; the performers, leader, and engager may agree that distance of less than 2 metres is allowable for the purpose of the particular work, production or performance.
 - a) Otherwise, 2 metre distance shall be maintained for everyone, including musicians, music prep professionals, crew and sound/video engineers and if possible, 3 – 4 metres for vocalists, wind and brass players while they are performing.
 - ii. When public health regulations allow for vocalists and performers of wind and brass instruments to perform without barriers, the performers, leader and engager may agree that it is allowable to perform without barriers
 - a) Otherwise provide impermeable barriers between musicians, ideally reaching from the floor to at least eye level.
 - iii. Currently, an impermeable barrier is required between the performers and the audience if the performance includes vocalists, wind or brass players. TMA149 is appealing to the Province of Ontario to allow for a 4 meter distance as an alternative to a barrier between performers and audience in this circumstance, but as of the date of publishing the impermeable barrier is still required.
 - iv. Absorbent materials on the floor for brass players for removal of condensation; absorbent materials must be provided and disposed of safely.
 - v. Each recording/tech location divided into stations created for social distancing of 2 metres per individual;

Based on guidance from AFM Local 47, Burbank, CA

3. Sheet music and other paper materials
 - a. Music prep professionals (librarians, orchestrators and copyists) shall follow mask and glove protocols for handling, distributing and collecting sheet music.
 - b. Contractors shall accept tax information and collectively bargained forms (e.g. Cartage) digitally, or via mail.
 - c. Musicians shall conclude the session with sheet music collected on the stand.

4. Illness-related issues
 - a. Issues regarding how testing and tracking will occur, who will do the tracking, how records are kept, privacy under the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act and more will need to be established in advance of the rehearsal/performance/session.
 - b. Any musician, crew or other participant who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms as defined in the link below shall not attend the rehearsal/performance/session.
 - c. Any musician, crew or other participant who exhibits or feels the onset of such symptoms during the rehearsal/performance/session shall leave immediately.
 - d. In either case, testing shall be undertaken immediately by the affected person, the affected person shall confirm the test was taken and the results to the engager and the leaders of the musicians / crew / other staff, and the agreed upon responsibilities for tracking and tracing shall commence
 - e. Musicians or crew who report symptoms either shortly before or during the session shall not be deprived of wages or benefits.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/symptoms.html>