

Step	Guidance from PHO	Meetings (e.g. graduate committee)	Events (e.g. workshops, conferences)	Lab work	Field work	Human participants** See note below	Research Travel
Normal, Non Covid requirements	N/A	N/A	N/A	Required safety training	Project Risk Assessment to be completed and sent to safety@unbc.ca and research@unbc.ca	Research Ethics Board Approval	Travel authorization BEFORE travel.
Step 1 Earliest = June 1	Masks mandatory indoors, physical distancing, enhanced cleaning	Masks mandatory, maximum occupancy limits, sanitize area before and after	Masks mandatory indoors, maximum occupancy limits, up to 10 people indoors, review Exposure Control Plan checklist	Masks mandatory, maximum occupancy limits, Exposure Control Plan checklist sent to Safety Office	Covid safety plan attached to Project Risk Assessment, masks mandatory in vehicles, sanitize vehicles and common equipment	Safe Research Plan- guidelines can be found here . Submit with Research Ethics application and Safety Office.	Travel for research is defined as essential and intraprovincial travel allowed. Request letter from Safety Office
Step 2 Earliest = June 15	Masks mandatory indoors, physical distancing, enhanced cleaning	Masks mandatory, maximum occupancy limits, sanitize area before and after	Masks mandatory indoors, maximum occupancy limits, up to 50 people indoors, Exposure Control Plan checklist sent to Safety Office	Masks mandatory, maximum occupancy limits, Exposure Control Plan checklist sent to Safety Office	Covid safety plan attached to Project Risk Assessment, masks mandatory in vehicles, sanitize vehicles and common equipment	Safe Research Plan- guidelines can be found here . Submit with Research Ethics application and Safety Office.	Travel within province unrestricted. For intended international travel, contact Safety Office for current information
Step 3 Earliest = July 1	Masks mandatory indoors, careful social contact, enhanced cleaning	Masks recommended, normal occupancy	Masks recommended, normal occupancy, Exposure Control Plan checklist sent to Safety Office	Masks recommended, normal occupancy, Exposure Control Plan checklist sent to Safety Office	Covid safety plan attached to Project Risk Assessment, masks recommended in vehicles	Masks recommended for in-person interviews, Safe Research Plan required.	Travel within Canada unrestricted. For intended international travel, contact Safety Office for current information
Step 4 Earliest = Sept. 7	Masks personal choice, normal social contact, enhanced cleaning	Masks optional, normal occupancy	Masks optional, normal occupancy	Masks optional, normal occupancy	Masks in vehicles optional Project Risk Assessment to be completed and sent to safety@unbc.ca	Masks optional	For intended international travel, contact Safety Office for current information

Research Involving Human Participants and COVID

Regardless of previous Research Ethics Board (REB) approval and updates in PHO, any changes to approved planned research activities that increase the level of risk to participants need to be submitted to the REB through the regular amendment process. If a protocol with previous paused in-person activities is now being resumed, please submit an amendment that outlines PHO indexed engagement. An example would be to have the Information Letter state that in-person focus group interviews would only be held if permissible by PHO. This gives both the REB and the participant assurance of the intent to act within PHOs, and the opportunity to engage once permitted. .It remains up to researchers to determine compliance with all active PHOs,

If a protocol has pre-pandemic consents from the locations of in-person research (such as a school, health authority, First Nations community), a copy of the updated consent should be submitted along with the amendment, to confirm their ongoing support, awareness, and capacity for the in-person COVID-19 modifications being made.

At this time, the Safe Research Plan is still a requirement for in-person activities. Change in this requirement will be stated by the Office of Research and Innovation as soon as appropriate for the status of the pandemic.

Depending on the situation, here are recommended steps:

1. Submit an amendment for paused research, that
 - a. includes recognition of PHO's;
 - b. a Safe Research Plan and
 - c. updated location/community consents for in-person research.
2. Submit an amendment for ongoing remote research to now engage with in-person elements to their protocol that covers a-c from above.
3. Submit an application for new research that has a-c addressed.

Davina Banner-Lukaris, Chair UNBC Research Ethics Board

Kathy Lewis, Acting VP Research and Innovation

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