

ACC Toronto Section Winter Trip Protocols (COVID-19)

October 21, 2020; Updated December 26, 2020

For the foreseeable future, the following protocols will apply to all ACC Toronto Section trips/activities.

- (Dec 26) The maximum group size for any trip is 10 people, including trip leaders, guides, facilitators, etc.
- (Dec 26) All participants must maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from other participants (excluding members of the same household)
- (Dec 26) No multipitch trips are allowed until Ontario eases restrictions as multipitch belays rarely allow for physical distancing
- Participants are encouraged to use their own gear where possible. Hard gear can be sanitized. Soft gear should be kept clean; however, alcohol and harsh chemicals should not be used on ropes and soft gear.
- Trip Leaders will promote personal hygiene practices during the event, including: coughing and sneezing etiquette, hand hygiene (no shaking hands/high-fives), cleaning and disinfecting practices.
- Trip Leaders will ensure they bring an appropriate first-aid kit All participants must adhere to the following requirements:

Participant requirements prior to trips/events

- Participants must not have traveled internationally in the 14 days prior to the start of a trip/event.
- Participants exhibiting any COVID-like symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, shortness of breath), or who have been exposed to others with COVID-like symptoms will not be permitted to attend the trip.
- If you exhibit any COVID-like symptoms within 10 days after attending an ACC trip, you must immediately contact the trip leader(s) - who will immediately inform the ACC Toronto Section Board - to inform them of your situation.
- All participants must sign the new waiver and declaration of health prior to commencement of the trip.
- All participants must read and follow the below latest guidelines issued by the Province of Ontario and the Ontario Alliance of Climbers:
 - Ontario: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/index.html>
 - OAC: <https://www.ontarioallianceofclimbers.ca/2020/06/09/ontario-climbing-access-update/>
- All gear that may be used by other participants should be isolated for 3 days before the commencement of the trip.

Participant requirements and recommendations during trips/events

- All participants are required to have their own mask and hand sanitizer
- Full finger gloves for belaying are encouraged (but not required) if you'll be using others' equipment
- Everyone will be required to practice physical distancing of 2 meters for the duration of the event. The only exception will be those living in the same household
- Masks must be also be worn to protect participants, especially when participants are close to the minimum 2-meter distance (it is recommended that all participants wear a mask/face covering for the duration of the trip/event, regardless of physical distance)
- Masks must be worn when handling any equipment that will be used by others
- Participants are strongly encouraged to climb/belay with one dedicated partner for the duration of the trip/event to minimize multiple contacts
- Carpooling is not recommended unless participants are from the same household
- No food or drink can be shared unless shared among people from the same household

Accommodations

- There will be no shared accommodations for any trips/events
- Trip leaders may recommend a hotel/motel that is operating according to current Ontario COVID-19 rules and restrictions (provided the facility offers individual rooms and not shared accommodations) and are free to negotiate group discounts