

November, 2020

Dear Property Owner,

We understand that as a result of the new two week Covid measures that took effect at on November 25th, there are questions about how or if you may continue to work with film productions. The film industry is not impacted by these measures, and will continue to operate under the same controls as those previously in place.

Due to its industry-specific COVID19 health & safety regulations, the industry has been able to continue work through the pandemic, including continuing to work with third-party businesses closed to the general public or otherwise limited in their core functions. This allows the industry to continue to play an important role supporting the local economic recovery.

All productions are required to develop a COVID-19 Safety Plan to begin work in B.C.

WorkSafeBC has published protocols for returning to operation for the motion picture industry.

We hope the following FAQs will answer most of your questions:

Is filming still permitted?

Although on Monday November 24 British Columbia will be entering a new two-week phase of restrictions, Film and Television productions and post-production projects will continue to operate as-is. No additional restrictions have been imposed on the screen industry. The restrictions indicate the following:

Film and television productions portion of the Framework:

- · Permitted with current restrictions in control
- Post-production permitted

Can a film production use a business or space currently shutdown or under restrictions?

Yes. While a space is actively used as a film set or location, the film industry's health and safety guidelines govern the use of that space. For example, if a restaurant or theatre is being used as a film set, the general social gathering limits do not apply and are replaced by the specific rules for film. Restaurants, bars, and other food or drink establishments are restricted from serving or feeding film staff.

What precautions can I expect the film crews to take while filming in my home or business?

You should expect all members of the crew to be wearing masks except for the actors. Actors need to remove their masks while cameras are rolling.

You should expect that hand washing and hand sanitizing stations are set up and that crew use them on a regular basis.

You should expect that all crew will have to go answer a questionnaire about their health before starting work every day. Some productions, although not mandated, are testing all crew, some up to three times a week.

You should expect that your home or business will be completely sanitized by a professional cleaning company both before and after filming.

The Film Industry in BC is doing an amazing job of keeping both crew and the public safe during these difficult times. We feel confident that you can safely allow film crews onto your property. However, if you have any concerns or questions please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Gilbert Film Commissioner

Vancouver Island South Film & Media Commission

kdgilbert@filmvictoria.com www.filmvictoria.com

