



Within this document, Guelph Community Singers (GCS) outlines its policies regarding in-person singing during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is currently part of your registration package, so please review this document carefully as you consider whether returning to in-person singing is the right choice for you.

Safety First:

Guelph Community Singers is committed to providing a safe return to singing for the 2022-2023 year. Member health and safety is very important to us, and the following list of COVID-19 policies will outline how we intend to uphold that health and safety. Singing is a high-risk activity based on the mode of droplet spread for COVID-19, so for us to sing together in-person we will need to ensure all members closely follow our policies to reduce the risk as much as possible.

If at any time, you or a member of your household has any of the listed symptoms below, we strongly ask that you remain home from choir practice. This will help protect all other members of the choir, and ensure that we are able to keep singing in person! Similarly, every choir rehearsal will involve attendance being taken, so in the case that we or Public Health need to reach out to members for contact tracing purposes, we are able to comply.

COVID-19 Common Symptoms

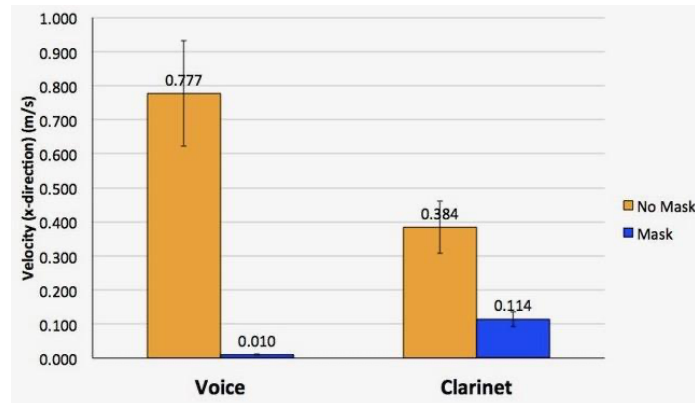
Fever, dry cough, fatigue, difficulty breathing, aches and pains, sore throat and/or loss of taste or smell

Membership Capacity:

At this time, GCS is permitting more choir members to sing at Trinity United Church in-person, with no mandatory social distancing at this time. As per the section below, we will be asking that singers wear a N95 or KN95 mask so that we can enjoy singing in closer proximity this session! We will also be providing a virtual option to join in our practice sessions for those members who do not wish to attend the in-person rehearsals, or are not fully vaccinated, are feeling unwell, or just can't make it in for an evening (see "Vaccination" section below).

Masks:

At this time, masks will be mandatory for all choir members singing in-person during our 2022-2023 session. Accommodation for anyone unable to wear a mask will be to attend the practices virtually, in order to ensure the lowest risk to all choir members and musical direction. The following graph demonstrates how effective masks are in reducing droplets, and is one of the ways GCS will reduce the risk of COVID-19 during our in-person sessions.



Vaccination:

GSC will require proof of full vaccination (2 vaccines minimum + 1 to 2 boosters is ideal) in order for members to attend in-person rehearsals. For those members that are unvaccinated, for whatever reason, are recommended to join in via our virtual connection. The GCS Board will require proof of vaccination by viewing a valid COVID-19 vaccine passport at time of registration.

Waiver:

As part of your member registration package, we have included a waiver that must be read and signed in order for you to attend our in-person sessions. Please find it as part of your registration package. Please read, sign and send a copy back as part of your registration for the session.

Registration Requirements:

Below is a list of all the components required for registration with GCS 2021-2022 season.

- Registration form with completed personal information (returning and new members)
- Read COVID-19 Policy
- Signed and submitted COVID-19 Waiver
- Proof of vaccination sent in at registration or shown at 1st rehearsal
- Paid registration/session fee
- Most importantly, your wonderful voices!!

What if Things Change?:

As we have all learned, COVID-19 is an every-changing landscape, where flexibility and understanding are key to moving forward. The GCS Board will closely follow all provincial guidelines, as well as the capacity and willingness of our wonderful venue. Another important point we will be considering is the comfort and safety of Henry, Grace, the Board, as well as all GCS members. Any and all changes will be promptly communicated to GCS members. All options will be explored if or when change needs to occur, and any thoughts, ideas or comments from our members are certainly welcome. We can't wait to be singing with you in-person!