

Decision Guide – In-Person Activities

We understand many groups have questions or share concerns about in-person outdoor activities amid the ever-changing regulations and recommendations by Health Officials. Many of us are lost by information overload. This is **understandable**. Shining Waters' GSS & SRMs are here to support you.

Here is a guide Groups can refer to in deciding whether an in-person activity should proceed. Ask yourself two simple questions:

- 1) Are we allowed? (Actual Written Law & Regulations from government and Scouts Canada)
- 2) Do we want to? (Group's own assessments based on the recommendations, risk analysis, and parent and scouter comfort level)

Q1: Are we allowed to?

Amid the sheer amount of information (social media, news, friends, etc.), it's easy to be confused. In answering this question, consider only **written material** coming from the government and Scouts Canada. While recommendations we hear from the news/social media are great - it is what it is: recommendations. Only **written** rules from government and Scouts Canada matters for this question.

- Ontario Regulation: <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/200364> (O. Reg. 364/20)
- Ontario Guideline: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/reopening-ontario-stages>
- Your Local Public Health Unit: <http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/common/system/services/phu/locations.aspx>
- Scouts Canada: <https://www.scouts.ca/news-and-events/overview.html>
- Canada Public Health Guideline: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/guidance-documents.html>

Still confused? **No worries** - Section Scouters can reach out to their GCs. GCs can reach out to their SRM/GSS. We'll get the answer for you.

Q2: Do we want to?

If the answer to Q1 is yes - then the next question to ask is, "Do we want to?"

As a GC / Scouter, do you feel comfortable? As well, do our youths and parents feel comfortable? The comfort question would include your assessment based on various recommendations from Health Officials and the people around you. It doesn't matter if Scouts Canada moves to Stage 5 tomorrow - if Scouters / youths / parents don't feel comfortable, the in-person event will not happen. On the other hand, if your group feels comfortable - and we're currently allowed to take part in in-person outdoor activity - then why not make it happen?

Many groups tried out in-person events with great success. Some groups prefer to start with the virtual program now. Both are perfectly fine. Every group is unique.

Want a 2nd Opinion as you're not sure? **No worries** - Section Scouters can reach out to their GCs. GCs can reach out to their SRM/GSS. We'll provide a 2nd opinion for you to consider in making the final decision and provide additional clarity, insights, and support.