

ACTRA

ACTRA Montreal

COVID-19

**Best Practices Guideline (BPG):
Minimum Health & Safety Standards**

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ACTRA Montreal Best Practices Guideline (BPG): Minimum Health & Safety Standards

Protecting ACTRA members from the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace presents many unique challenges. As performers in film, TV, videogames, commercials, animation, and other aspects of recorded media, ACTRA members often work in vastly different work environments, including audition facilities, sound stages, city streets, private homes, sound booths and motion capture studios.

The nature of their work as actors, stunt performers, background performers, singers, dancers, and more, is quite broad. Performers may travel nationally or internationally for work and regularly find themselves working alongside cast and crew that have travelled to Canada from abroad.

The following document outlines ACTRA's policies and practices to provide a safe working environment for all productions.

Please note, these guidelines are in all cases, supplementary to existing health and safety measures contained within ACTRA's collective agreements, in addition to standards and practices established by the [World Health Organization](#), [Government of Canada](#), [Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux](#), [City of Montreal](#), [Institut national de santé publique du Québec](#), and [Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail](#).

As per the CNESST, the Producer must acknowledge its responsibility for the Health and Safety of all employees.

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Requirements

Productions under ACTRA Montreal’s jurisdiction are permitted to proceed, provided the following criteria have been met:

- The Producer agrees to follow health and safety measures contained within the ACTRA Best Practices Guideline document; AND
- The Producer provides ACTRA with a copy of their Health & Safety Protocol; AND
- The Producer complies with all provincial health & safety regulations, including the mandatory use of masks in indoor public spaces and CNESST protocols for the audio-visual sector (see [CNESST website](#) for more information).

Understanding

Production has an obligation to ensure Performers feel safe in a work environment. Performers should feel comfortable voicing their concern about health and safety standards and Production should make best efforts to resolve any issues.

The measures in ACTRA’s BPG represent a partial (non-exhaustive) list of ACTRA safety requirements and are supplemental to the health, safety and working provisions contained within ACTRA’s collective agreements (such as, but not limited to):

- No reprisal against a performer who refuses a booking or leaves work due to health or safety concerns
- Applicability of Cancellation and Postponement fees as per section A19 and Article 12 of Appendix 20 in the Independent Production Agreement (IPA), Section 15 of the National Commercial Agreement (NCA), Section 18 of the Audio Code, and the relevant articles on Cancellation and Postponement in the applicable ACTRA Videogame Agreement(s)
- Applicability of Appendix 30 of the IPA and Appendix R of the NCA

Notification

To ensure all relevant Government authorizations and Best Practice Guidelines are in place, Production must inform ACTRA of any intended work with Performers during the COVID-19 crisis a minimum of two (2) business days before the call time for any work (i.e. auditions, rehearsals, recording, etc.).

Notification must include (but is not limited to):

- Name of project,
- Name of performer(s),
- Date,
- Time,
- Location of the set/studio,
- Number of crew required/to be present, and
- Any other pertinent information that should be considered.

General: All Productions

ACTRA's Best Practices Guideline must be circulated to all workers on a production and workers should be reminded of these guidelines daily.

1. No person(s) having tested positive for COVID-19, awaiting test results, or showing symptoms should be present in any work environment.
2. As per Government regulations, any person having traveled abroad or in another region of Quebec, or having been in contact with a person who returned from abroad or another region of Quebec in the past 14 days, should not be admitted to a work space before having completed a 14-day quarantine, during which time no symptoms have presented themselves.
3. Should any worker on the Production test positive for COVID-19, ACTRA and all Performers must be notified.
4. A person must have two (2) negative COVID-19 tests consecutively before returning to work.
5. Production must have a strategic plan, in the event of a COVID-19 related interruption of work.

PPE and Sanitization

6. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be employed by workers (except where it would limit the ability to perform) and should be readily available. PPE should include, but is not limited to:
 - a. N-95 rated protective masks – [Click here for more information on the proper use of masks.](#)
 - b. Protective gloves
7. PPE use and re-use should follow the recommendations established by the government and health organizations cited earlier in this document.
8. A 2 metre physical distancing rule should be applied whenever possible.
9. When in contact with a Performer or equipment to be used by a Performer (i.e. props, microphone, costume, etc.), workers must use PPE.
10. All equipment, tools, surfaces and common areas must be cleaned/sanitized before the start of the workday and between each use.
11. Enhanced sanitization equipment must be accessible in all areas of the work environment. Such equipment should include, but is not limited to:
 - a. Antiseptic gel dispensers – minimum 60% alcohol required
 - b. No-touch taps for hand washing (wherever possible)
 - c. Disposable hand towels or non-touch electric hand dryers
 - d. Disinfectant cleanser wipes
 - e. Open (no-touch) trash disposal bins for tissues and paper towels
12. Hand washing or applying hand sanitizer must be mandatory when:
 - a. Arriving and leaving the work environment.
 - b. Before and after rest periods, meal breaks and comfort breaks.
 - c. Before and after any contact with a Performer (or in fitting a Performer with equipment, make-up, props, costume, etc.).

13. An infographic should appear above each sink detailing the correct 20-second handwashing procedure, as recommended by Quebec Public Health.
14. Workers should be regularly reminded of sanitization rules and the rules must be displayed in several places in the work environment.

Limiting the number of workers and interaction

15. “Closed set/studio” standards should be employed to reduce the number of people physically working in the environment, using essential workers only.
 - a. Wherever technology allows, people should work via a remote connection (Zoom, Skype, Teams, BlueJeans, Source Connect or others).
16. Paper documents (contracts, call sheets, sign-in sheets, etc) should be issued electronically.
 - b. If paper is essential, the documents must not be transferred between workers.
17. Whenever possible, staggered call times should be employed to allow for physical distancing and time for proper sanitization of a work environment.

Casting and auditions

18. Remote casting should be employed whenever possible in lieu of in-person auditions.
19. When in-person auditions are required, Production must:
 - a. Advise Performers to wait outside of the audition facilities until they are called in for their audition, and
 - b. Respect all on-set health and safety requirements listed in the “PPE and Sanitization” section of this document.
20. ACTRA must be notified of any intent to engage a minor on a Production.

Pre-production and communication

21. Meetings, readings, and rehearsals shall be conducted virtually.
22. All communications (i.e. emails, call sheets, booking confirmations, etc.) shall include a copy of the Production’s and ACTRA’s Best Practices Guidelines.
23. Quebec’s COVID-19 hotline number should be circulated: 1-877-644-4545.

Questionnaire

24. Before accessing a work environment, all workers must complete a questionnaire confirming the following statements:
 - a. The worker has not travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days;
 - b. The worker does not have flu symptoms or is known to be associated with Covid-19;
 - c. The worker, to the best of their knowledge, has not been in contact with a person infected with Covid-19 in the past 14 days;
 - d. The worker consents to comply with all health and safety measures in the workplace.
 - e. The worker will commit to a Code of Conduct that requires following all provincial health and safety measures (i.e. physical and social distancing, wearing a mask, etc.) even while outside of the work environment, to help ensure the protection of others in the work environment.
25. The worker is obligated to inform Production immediately of any changes to the above statements.

Transport

26. Transport protocols apply for travel to and from production.
27. Transport vehicles must be disinfected before and after Performers enter and exit the vehicle.
28. The number of passengers in a vehicle must be limited to accommodate physical distancing measures.
 - a. The number of passengers should be limited to one per row. i.e. a car would be limited to a driver and single passenger, a van with a third row of seats would be limited to a driver and two passengers.
29. All passengers must wear PPE.

Catering and craft services

30. Physical distancing rules (2 metres) should be maintained and clearly designated with floor markings.
31. Mealtimes/breaks should be staggered to limit the number of workers physically in the environment.
32. Workers should be provided with single use water bottles or have access to touchless water filling stations to refill their own water bottle.
33. Snacks, catered meals, and utensils provided to performers must be individually packaged.

On-set/On-camera Production

General On-set/On-camera

1. Shooting abroad with performers is not permitted, in accordance with health and safety directives issued by the Government of Canada.
2. A COVID-19 Health Officer should be engaged by Production to ensure compliance with all health and safety standards. This Officer should be:
 - a. An accredited health professional,
 - b. Available to performers on set, and
 - c. A new position – not an additional duty for an existing crew member.
3. The responsibilities of the COVID-19 Health Officer will be to:
 - a. Review scripts and locations during pre-production to recommend best practices for filming and approach.
 - b. Advise what safety measures and what type of health and safety equipment is required to safely achieve the shoot day and determine if additional equipment is required.
 - i. Production is responsible for procurement of said equipment.
 - c. Approve an on-set Medic trained for dealing with COVID-19.
 - d. Affirm that all workers have completed the Questionnaire stated in the “General: All Productions” section of this document and are permitted on set.
 - e. Administer or supervise any testing measures at the commencement of the workday to screen for symptoms.
 - ii. Anyone exhibiting symptoms will not be allowed in the work environment.
 - f. Give feedback, as required, to Production and the assistant directors’ team during a shoot.
 - g. Determine the necessity of quarantining people, wardrobe, supplies and equipment.
 - h. Maintain strict confidentiality in the collection of any information pertaining to a worker’s personal health.
4. Work hours for all workers should be limited (10 hours/day) to reduce chances of fatigue and provide adequate time for sanitizing the work environment.

Wardrobe fittings

5. Whenever possible, wardrobe should be selected from the Performer’s personal collection.
 - a. The Performer’s time coordinating with Production in the selection of wardrobe shall be reflected in the work report and paid accordingly.

Make-up, Wardrobe and Hair

6. Crew in Make-up, Hair and Wardrobe shall wear PPE at all times while working with Performers.
7. Only one Performer shall be in the make-up trailer at a time.
8. Make-up equipment (i.e. brushes and sponges) must be sanitized before and after each use and are not to be shared between Performers. Disposable equipment is suggested.
9. Performers required to do their own make-up or hair shall have that time reflected in the work report and paid accordingly.
10. Wardrobe and period Wardrobe arriving from abroad must be quarantined for at least 5 days.

Rest Areas

11. Physical distancing rules (2 metres) should be maintained and clearly designated with floor markings.
12. When possible, Performers in holding areas should use PPE.
13. Trailers must be sanitized before being used by a Performer.

Shooting

14. When possible, technicians should instruct Performers on how to attach recording equipment themselves.
 - a. If this is not possible, the technician shall employ PPE while in contact with Performer.
15. When possible, Performers should be allowed to use PPE during setup, and for as long as possible until they are required to remove the equipment.
16. When possible, filming should attempt to accommodate physical distancing rules (2 metres).
17. When possible, limit the number of takes.
18. Keep make-up and hair touch-ups to a minimum.

End of day (wrap)

19. Performers should remove their own make-up.
20. When possible, Performers who require use of the same wardrobe over multiple days should wrap their own wardrobe in a sealed bag.
21. Performers should be encouraged to sign-out using their own pens. Production should have a supply of individual pens/pencils (i.e. golf pencils) for Performers who have not brought their own.

Reminder

The above measures represent a partial (non-exhaustive) list of ACTRA safety requirements and are supplemental to the health and safety provisions contained within ACTRA's collective agreements such as, but not limited to applicability of Appendix 30 of the IPA and Appendix R of the NCA.

ACTRA reserves the right to modify this guideline as needed to ensure proper health and safety standards on ACTRA productions.

Voice Recording Production

Voice Recording General

1. Production shall appoint a person responsible for health and safety to ensure that all recommendations & regulations, (including the flow and distancing of people), are being respected, in addition to ensuring that all work environments are fully equipped with necessary PPE and sanitization equipment.

Production

2. Only one (1) Performer should be in a sound booth at a time.
3. When more than one Performer and/or the Voice Director are required in the sound booth, physical distancing rules (2 metres) must be respected.
 - a. Group recordings or ambiance (walla) should be avoided until further notice.
4. Specialized equipment (i.e. mics, mic filters, podiums, headphones, etc.) must be disinfected before and after use by a Performer.
 - a. Disposable mic and headphone covers are advised.
5. When possible, Performers should be encouraged to employ their own equipment (i.e. headphones, pens/pencils, water bottles, etc.).
6. There should be no sharing of equipment.

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Facial Capture and Motion Performance Capture Production

Rest Areas

1. Physical distancing rules (2 metres) should be maintained and clearly designated with floor markings.

Facial capture production

2. Performers must employ PPE, including safety goggles, throughout the process of getting rigged for facial capture. A technician must:
 - a. Sanitize their hands immediately before and after being in contact with a Performer.
 - b. Employ PPE.
3. Make-up equipment (i.e. brushes and applicators) and trackers which are glued to the face must be sanitized immediately before and after each use and are not to be shared between Performers. Disposable equipment is suggested.
4. Should make-up, or trackers be necessary, performers will be given the option to apply these themselves.
 - a. Should this not be possible, before applying make-up/trackers, a technician must:
 - i. Sanitize their hands immediately before.
 - ii. Employ PPE.

Motion performance capture production

5. Performers should employ PPE, including protective masks, throughout production, except in instances where the scene does not allow for it (i.e. recording dialogue, facial expression, etc.).
 - a. Masks should be changed every 4 hours or as needed.
6. When possible, technicians should instruct Performers on how to attach sound recording equipment and tracking equipment (dots) themselves.
 - a. If this is not possible, technicians shall employ PPE while rigging the Performer.
7. For multi-day bookings of a Performer, each individual Performer should be assigned required equipment/gear and props that will not be shared/used by any other Performer for the duration of the booking.
 - a. Equipment/gear and props should be sanitized after use and stored in a clearly marked protective (garment) bag to identify which Performer they belong to and avoid potential contamination.
8. Scenes should be recorded in a way to avoid or limit physical contact between Performers as much as possible.

Reminder

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Stunts

Understanding

While ACTRA Montreal acknowledges the added complexity of shooting stunt related scenes at this time, we remain committed to working with production to accommodate the rehearsal and filming of stunt action in a manner which satisfies the requirements of the project while still ensuring the health and safety of all performers.

At any time, we invite production to contact an ACTRA Montreal Business Rep that we may collaborate with your Stunt Coordinator on developing a solution to achieve this goal.

Furthermore, it is understood that the extent of ACTRA's health and safety protocols may be adapted accordingly, in consideration of the scope of the project and its stunt action.

Pre-production

1. All protocols listed in the "General: All Productions" section of the ACTRA Montreal Best Practices Guideline (including screening, PPE, questionnaire, communications, etc.) are applicable for Stunts.
 - a. This includes the use of physical distancing and masks for any work that does not take place in front of camera (i.e. meetings, rehearsals, blocking, etc.)
2. A Stunt Plan, establishing specific safety protocols based on each stunt, should be developed in conjunction with the Stunt Coordinator and submitted to ACTRA prior to rehearsal.
 - a. Production should consider the additional time required to prep and shoot Stunt Action.
3. The Stunt Coordinator should liaise with the production's COVID Coordinator (if applicable).
4. All communication between the Stunt Coordinator, stunt team and production, as well as prep work, should be conducted remotely. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Meetings
 - b. Team briefings
 - c. Choreography
 - d. Previz/rehearsal viewings

Production: General

5. Daily meetings should be conducted with the stunt department to remind everyone of applicable protocols, proper PPE use, and appropriate sanitization practices.
6. Where possible, production should employ a core team of Stunt Performers exclusively throughout the shoot to limit the number different performers and chances of contamination between shoot days.
7. Where possible, production should attempt to schedule stunt action over consecutive days to limit the chance of contamination between shoot days.
8. Where possible, rehearsals (including the recording of Previz) should be conducted outside.

Production: Equipment, Wardrobe and Props

9. If required, Performers should have their own clearly identified stunt equipment/gear (such as protective padding) so as to avoid sharing stunt equipment/gear belonging to a Stunt Performer.
10. All equipment/gear and props should be sanitized by production after use and stored in a clearly marked protective (garment) bag to identify which Performer they belong to and avoid potential contamination.
11. For multi-day bookings of a Stunt Performer, each individual Stunt Performer should be assigned required equipment/gear/wardrobe/props that will not be shared/used by any other Performer for the duration of the booking.
12. Stunt Doubles must not share wardrobe with performers they are doubling.

Reminder

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COVID-19

Foire aux questions

pour le tournage de productions audiovisuelles

COVID-19

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Shooting of Audio-visual Productions

This FAQ provides answers to questions from the audio-visual production community following the directives issued by the Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail (CNESST) and the Direction générale de la Santé publique (DGSP) regarding health and safety measures to protect against COVID-19.

The DGSP's directives may change as the pandemic progresses. The answers given in this FAQ are valid as of October 23, 2020 in all regions of Québec.

This FAQ covers 8 major topics.

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1. THE SMALL STABLE TEAM

1.1 What is a small stable team (SST)?

A team of limited size, fewer than 10 people working together exclusively.

1.2 What is the maximum number of people in an SST?

9 or fewer.

1.3 Is there a maximum length of time that an SST can exist?

There is no maximum duration.

1.4 Can an actor be part of two SSTs in two different productions at the same time? Why?

No. The risk of viral transmission increases slightly when you are in an SST, so you don't want to increase it further by exposure to two SSTs. When not filming, everyone involved in an SST is encouraged to follow public health recommendations for social distancing, which greatly reduces the risk of transmission.

1.5 What is meant by a "controlled zone" or "zone 1"?

This is a zone where performers and workers in SSTs are isolated from others.

1.6 What are the distancing rules in an SST?

According to the CNESST's *Workplace Sanitary Standards Guide for Audiovisual Production – COVID-19*, "performers can be at least 1 metre away from other people, without surgical masks or protective eyewear, if they work on a single set specifically dedicated to them and form a stable team of fewer than 10 people.

For periods not exceeding 15 minutes per day, cumulatively, these performers may shoot scenes at less than 1 metre apart, without surgical masks or protective eyewear.

Individuals at risk of serious complications, as well as workers on unstable teams or working on more than one set, must stand at least 2 metres apart if they are not separated by a physical barrier or if they are not wearing surgical masks or protective eyewear."

1.7 Outside of filming, do SST members have health guidelines to follow?

SST members must follow general public health guidelines, which include staying 2 metres away from people who are not in their household or SST, washing their hands frequently, avoiding indoor gatherings of more than 10 people, and wearing a mask or face covering in situations where a 2-metre distance cannot be maintained (such as in stores or on public transportation).

1.8 Is confinement recommended for actors and crew during the period of shooting?

No. There is a residual risk of COVID transmission after confinement as practised in the audio-visual industry or the professional sports community in some Western countries. Moreover, this practice contravenes Québec's labour standards.

1.9 How long is the precautionary period between shoots for SST members?

From 7 to 10 days.

1.10 Can this period be shortened by diagnostic tests?

No.

1.11 Can directors be part of an SST, and if so, under what circumstances?

No. Directors cannot be part of an SST. They must remain 2 metres away from the actors at all times.

1.12 Can members of an SST be added or removed during filming?

Members can be removed at any time. Adding members to the SST is not recommended. One member can be added per week (7 days), as long as they have not been part of another SST in the last 7-10 days and do not have any COVID symptoms.

1.13 How many SSTs can a production form, and according to what criteria or principles?

A production can form one, two or three SSTs in the same place if the surface area and configuration of the workspaces make it possible to isolate them from each other and from others involved in the production. Also, the production may form other SSTs if the shooting takes place in different locations.

1.14 Can children be included in an SST? Do the child's age and grade level have an impact on their inclusion in an SST?

Children can be included in an SST regardless of age and what grade they are in.

2. ACTORS AND BACKGROUND PERFORMERS

2.1 Can scenes involving babies and children be filmed? What are the rules for adults and children involved in a scene?

Yes, babies and children can be filmed according to the same rules set out in the CNESST's Workplace Sanitary Standards Guide for Audiovisual Production – COVID-19.

2.2 What are the rules for children and adolescents who are not part of an SST, with regard to distancing and face coverings? Do their age and grade level affect these rules?

Children and adolescents must follow the same rules as adults, except for the wearing of masks, which is recommended but not mandatory for children aged 2 to 10. Children 2 years old and under are not permitted to wear masks.

2.3 What about the elderly or people with underlying conditions?

They can take part in the shooting, but it is in their interest to remain 2 metres away from other people.

2.4 How many background performers can be put together for outdoor scenes and what rules must be respected?

It is recommended to restrict the number of background performers. They must always remain 2 metres away from others, except for a maximum 15 minutes (cumulative) per day.

2.5 Under what conditions can background performers move around without PPE when shooting a scene (for example, if they move around without stopping in an interior space, such as a corridor, without talking and without interacting with each other)?

The cumulative time of these movements must be minimized as much as possible and should never exceed 15 cumulative minutes per day per background performer.

3. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

3.1 Does the crew have to wear PPE at all times?

Yes, except for those working at all times 2 metres away from others on the production and except for a cumulative period of no more than 15 minutes per day per person.

3.2 Can a good quality face covering replace a surgical mask?

No. Surgical masks are recommended by the CNESST and DGSP for work situations. There is currently no standard in Québec for face coverings.

3.3 Can a visor be worn without further protection?

No. A surgical mask must be worn in addition to a visor or safety glasses when 2-metre distancing is not possible.

3.4 How do I decide when to replace my mask?

A surgical mask should be replaced as soon as it is soiled or wet or after 4 hours of continuous use. Depending on the person or type of activity, 2 to 4 masks are required per 8-hour shift.

4. FILMING LOCATIONS

4.1 Do the same general rules also apply when a production is shot in a public place?

Yes.

5. PHYSICAL CONTACT AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

5.1 Under what conditions are actors allowed to be within 1 metre of one another?

For a period not exceeding 15 cumulative minutes per day, performers may shoot scenes at less than 1 metre apart, without surgical masks or protective eyewear. Scenes shot within 1 metre must be timed for each actor involved and counted by adding up each timed sequence to ensure that the maximum of 15 cumulative minutes per day is not exceeded.

However, scenes between two performers involving physical contact (sex scenes, contact between parts of the face) are not permitted, except for actors from the same household who have been living at the same address for some time prior to the shoot.

In addition, friendly gestures that are of very short duration, such as a handshake or a comforting gesture such as a hand on the shoulder, are permitted. An aggressive gesture to the back or an instantaneous gesture, such as a slap or a punch, is also permitted.

In some exceptional cases, a scene with no physical contact may be shot with the actors at less than 1 metre apart, without being included in the prescribed 15 cumulative minutes, when one of the actors (who must be from the same SST) is wearing PPE, which can be rendered invisible on the screen by a special effect.

5.2 Which types of physical contact are not permitted and why?

Scenes between two performers involving physical contact (sex scenes, contact between parts of the face) are not permitted due to the high risk of viral transmission, except for actors from the same household who have been living at the same address for some time prior to the shoot.

5.3 Does the cumulative 15 minutes per day apply to persons other than actors?

This measure applies to all members of the SST, in order to make possible the shooting of scenes at less than 1 metre away without PPE. On the other hand, if someone performs all of their tasks at least 2 metres away, they don't need to

wear PPE even if, for brief unforeseen moments in their day not exceeding 15 minutes in total, they are less than 2 metres away from another person (such as in a corridor, for example).

5.4 Can only actors who are a couple in real life shoot intimate contact scenes (sex scenes, face-to-face contact, etc.)?

Yes, this applies to actors from the same household who have been living at the same address for some time prior to the shoot.

5.5 Can two actors dance together?

Yes, actors from the same household who have been living at the same address for some time prior to the shoot can dance together. It is also permitted if the actors are 1 metre away from each other and are members of the same SST, or in exceptional cases, when they are less than 1 metre apart but one of them is wearing PPE.

5.6 How is the distance between people measured?

It is measured from one head to the other.

6. CONTROL MEASURES

6.1 Must a person responsible for enforcing health and safety measures be present on a film set or at a location?

No, but it is strongly recommended, in order to avoid an outbreak on the set.

6.2 Do producers have the right to require that a crew member take a COVID-19 test?

The test does not replace any of the measures recommended in the CNESST's Workplace Sanitary Standards Guide for Audiovisual Production – COVID-19. However, producers may agree with the other parties to have tests conducted in addition to the measures recommended by the CNESST.

7. ADVERTISING

7.1 Do advertising shoots have to follow the standards and guidelines set out in the CNESST's Workplace Sanitary Standards Guide for Audiovisual Production – COVID-19?

Yes.

8. STUNT WORK

8.1 Is fighting with physical contact permitted, and if so, under what conditions?

Fight scenes are permitted at all times if the performers are wearing appropriate PPE. Such scenes are also permitted if the stunt performers are in an SST: they can then be less than 1 metre away without PPE for a cumulative total of 15 minutes per day per stunt performer.

8.2 Is fighting without physical contact and without PPE permitted if a distance of at least 1 metre between people is maintained?

Yes, if the people concerned are in the same SST.

8.3 What general safety measures are to be taken during rehearsals and training involving actors and stunt performers?

All rehearsals and training must be done with appropriate PPE.

8.4 If the stunt performers are in a different SST from the actors, can they shoot more than 15 minutes of fight scenes per day, without physical contact and without PPE?

The standard remains the same if stunt performers who are members of an SST are less than 1 metre apart. Even if there is no physical contact, they must respect the rule of 15 cumulative minutes maximum per day, per person, and enter the time in the records.

8.5 Can actors form an SST with stunt performers?

Yes, an SST can include both stunt performers and actors, as long as it is limited to fewer than 10 people. An SST can also be made up exclusively of stunt performers, also with a limit of fewer than 10 people.

8.6 Can more than one stunt performer be put in the same dressing room at the same time?

No. The section on special measures for audio-visual productions in the CNESST's Workplace Sanitary Standards Guide for Audiovisual Production – COVID-19 states that "if the same dressing room is used by more than one performer, one following the other, it must be cleaned and disinfected between each performer's use."

8.7 Who is responsible for ensuring that health and safety rules are respected during the filming of stunts?

The producer is responsible for ensuring that health and safety rules are respected. It is strongly recommended that a person be identified for this purpose on each set.

8.8 How often should there be a cleaning of specialized stunt equipment, such as mattresses, radios and props, during rehearsals or filming days? Can this equipment be shared?

Please refer to the section on special measures for audio-visual productions in the CNESST's Workplace Sanitary Standards Guide for Audiovisual Production – COVID-19. It states that:

- "As far as possible, limit the number of pieces of equipment, decorative items or props;
- Microphones must be disinfected after each use;
- Any backdrops, equipment, objects or props to be used on a shoot must be cleaned and disinfected before and after use;
- Workers and performers who have to handle backdrops, equipment, objects or props while filming must wash their hands frequently."

This information applies to both rehearsals and shoots.

8.9 Does the protective equipment for stunts used by actors have to be washed at the end of each rehearsal or shooting day?

Equipment, objects or props used in a rehearsal or shoot must be cleaned and disinfected before and after use.

8.10 Do the stunt coordinator and stunt performers have to wear their PPE at all times on the set and in the production office?

It is not required to wear PPE when distancing is respected. Individuals must wear PPE when they are 2 metres away from other people or 1 metre in the case of other SST members. Stunt performers who are part of the same SST can, however, be less than 1 metre away without PPE for a cumulative total of 15 minutes per stunt performer per day.

8.11 Do stunt performers have to wear different clothing than what they came to work in, in order to avoid the risk of contamination?

No.