

Dear CBC4Kids community,

We sincerely hope you and your circle have stayed safe and healthy this past year. As the seasons change and we look towards our winter programming, we can probably all agree on the uncertainty of community events, like the CBC4Kids. Our discussions addressing the upcoming CBC4Kids season began in August. However, with the ever-changing situation across our different regions, a clear approach forward has been challenging.

Our guidance for the 2020-2021 CBC4Kids season aligns with the Birds Canada and Audubon response for Christmas Bird Counts, as follows:

- **Safety is of top concern. Please use your best judgment for a COVID-safe CBC4Kids and comply with all current public health guidelines for your area.**
- **Public health recommendations may change as we approach the CBC and CBC4Kids season, and a COVID-Safe event might not be possible in your area. If restrictions for your region are imposed after you have decided to run a CBC4Kids, it should be cancelled.**
- Please review this letter to [Birds Canada volunteers undertaking Citizen Science surveys in 2020](#).

If you are considering a CBC4Kids in your region, please review the following recommendations with regards to your local restrictions:

1. No public health authority restrictions in place for public gatherings

Even without restrictions on public gatherings, social distancing and masks should be mandatory, while sharing binoculars, carpooling and in-person wrap-ups avoided.

2. Some restrictions by public health authority

Local coordinators may opt for a distance-led bird count, providing support and resources for family group participation, followed by a virtual wrap up and data submission.

3. Restrictions or lockdown

Event will need to be cancelled.

Our CBC4Kids resources will be available to support your bird count (bird ID guide, tally form and Nature Counts portal for data submission), but there will be no registration or event map, and reduced program promotions for the 2020-2021 CBC4Kids season. A coordinator meeting for anyone interested to discuss and share COVID-safe ideas for adapted CBC4Kids events will be arranged for end the of October. If you would like to be part of this conversation, the meeting poll is available here:

<https://doodle.com/poll/hkbs43dti4ddux5g>

Please visit the [CBC4Kids webpage](#) for resources and updates, tune in to our social accounts on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) with #CBC4Kids, and feel free to get in touch with us at: education@birdscanada.org.

We wish you a safe and happy winter bird counting season!

Sincerely,

Liza Barney
Education Program Coordinator
Birds Canada | Oiseaux Canada
lbarney@birdscanada.org