

Northern Territory of Australia
Public and Environmental Health Act 2011
COVID-19 Directions (No. 9) 2020

I, Hugh Crosbie Heggie, Chief Health Officer, under section 52 of the *Public and Environmental Health Act 2011*, consider it necessary, appropriate or desirable to take action to alleviate the public health emergency in the Territory, declared by instrument entitled "Declaration of Public Health Emergency", dated 18 March 2020, by making the following directions:

**Directions for Closure of Certain Businesses to the Public and to Cease
Certain Business and Other Activities**

- 1 These Directions take effect at 16:00 on 24 March 2020 and remain in force until the earlier of the following:
- (a) a declaration under section 50(2) of the Act is no longer in force;
 - (b) midnight on 20 April 2020.

Note for direction 1

These Directions will remain in force during any subsequent extensions of that declaration, which may be made under section 50(2) of the Public and Environmental Health Act 2011.

- 2 My COVID-19 Directions (No. 6) 2020 are revoked.

- 3 In these Directions:

amusement venue means a venue used principally for playing:

- (a) billiards, pool or other like games; or
- (b) electronic or mechanical amusement devices, computer or video games or similar devices or games.

indoors means an area, room or premises that is or are substantially enclosed by a roof and walls, regardless of whether the roof or walls or any part of them are permanent or temporary or open or closed.

- 4 The proprietor of any of the following businesses must not open the business to the public:
- (a) a casino within the meaning of the *Gaming Control Act 1993*;
 - (b) a business that holds a gaming machine licence within the meaning of the *Gaming Machine Act 1995*;
 - (c) a gymnasium to the extent that the business is conducted indoors;
 - (d) an indoor sporting facility;
 - (e) a cinema, theatre, concert hall, music hall, dance hall, nightclub or any other similar entertainment venue;
 - (f) an amusement venue.
- 5 Direction 4(a) and (b) do not prevent the proprietor of an accommodation business from operating the part of the business and the part of the premises that provides accommodation.
- 6 The proprietor of a business that serves food or beverages must not serve any food or beverages to members of the public for consumption in or on the premises of the business or, if the premises are adjacent to an indoor food court, in that food court.
- 7 Directions 4 and 6 do not prevent the proprietor of an accommodation business from serving food or beverages for consumption by a guest in the guest's room.
- 8 A person who owns, controls or operates a place used for religious worship must not open that place to the public, except for the purposes of a wedding or funeral.

- 9 These Directions prevail to the extent of any inconsistency with direction 6(m) of my COVID-19 Directions (No. 4) 2020.

Note for direction 9

These Directions do not otherwise displace the COVID-19 Directions (No. 4) 2020, which continue to apply to gatherings.

Notes for COVID-19 Directions

- 1 *Section 56 of the Public and Environmental Health Act 2011 provides for an offence for failing to comply with a direction given by the Chief Health Officer under section 52(3) of that Act.*
- 2 *The maximum penalty for this offence is 400 penalty units.*
- 3 *A person is not guilty of this offence if the person has a reasonable excuse.*

Dated

Chief Health Officer