



**Westwinds Music Society**  
Room 38B8 – 2526 Battleford Ave. SW  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

**March 13, 2020**

Re: Covid-19 (Corona Virus) Outbreak

Dear Members:

Several of you have been in touch with the office asking what actions Westwinds will take regarding the Covid-19 pandemic. We are now prepared to respond to those questions.

While our rehearsals do not approach the 250 person guideline for cancellation provided by the provincial government, many of our performances do. The government guidelines also specify that groups of 50 or more that involve “seniors or high-risk” populations should also be cancelled. Many of our members, myself included, are (to be as politically correct as possible) of advanced years, and thus more susceptible to the Covid-19 virus, should we be exposed to it.

In addition, I’ve consulted on this matter with several members who also happen to be physicians. These members have correctly pointed out that the Covid-19 virus is transmitted by “respiratory droplets”. With all respect to brass and woodwind players and choristers alike, they point out that it’s not difficult to imagine clouds of such droplets being forced into the air through horns and through the mouths of choristers at every rehearsal.

This has by no means been an easy decision, but these are not easy times, and the members of the board feel that we need to be as responsible as we possibly can in our reaction to this crisis. Therefore, to protect the health of our members, our artistic staff, and our audiences, the board has made the unprecedented decision to suspend all Westwinds rehearsals and performances until further notice, effective immediately.

We are currently working to quantify the financial impact of this suspension on members, given that there are a few rehearsals and performances remaining in our year that will be impacted. Please watch your weekly announcements for further updates in this area.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce V. Robin". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Bruce Robin  
President  
Westwinds Music Society