



World

Canada

Local ▾

Politics

Money

Health

Entertainment

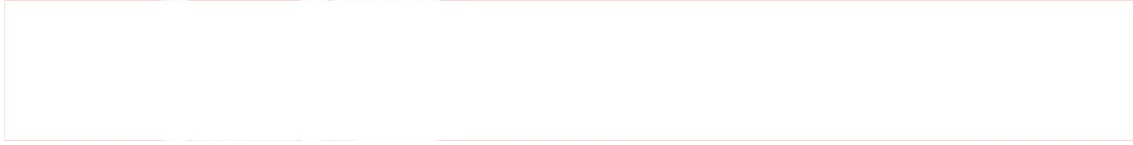
Coronavirus

Canadian Cases

Questions answered

The Symptoms

Hand Washing



ADVERTISEMENT

EDUCATION

# Coronavirus pandemic impacting Alberta music classes this fall



By **Slav Kornik** · Global News  
Posted August 20, 2020 11:09 pm

## Global News Hour at 6 Edmonton

No more singing: school music classes adjust to COVID-19

00:01 / 01:52

WATCH ABOVE: Schools are making adjustments for music class and that means some instruments have been shelved and no more singing. Kendra Slugoski has more.



With schools taking steps to prevent the potential spread of the [coronavirus](#),

COVID-19 will have a great impact on the upcoming school year for students of all ages in Alberta — including those with a passion for music.

Roman Dubrule is a jazz musician who was set to finish his music degree at MacEwan University, but now his completion date is in question.

“I’m fairly convinced that I won’t be coming back this year again,” Dubrule said.

**READ MORE:** [Article meant to ease parents back to school concerns raises eyebrows](#)

Dubrule said the majority of his classes will be online. Recitals will be conducted online rather than in front of a live audience, while vocalists and the horn section will not be allowed to perform.

STORY CONTINUES BELOW ADVERTISEMENT

---

“I think it’s a huge difference and one of the main reasons I don’t want to come back,” Dubrule said of the restrictions.

**READ MORE:** [Dozens protest Alberta’s back-to-school plan outside education minister’s Red Deer office](#)

University of Alberta music programs for voice, woodwind and brass instruments will also be online. In-person instruction will only be allowed if it doesn’t involve breathwork.

*[ [Sign up for our Health IQ newsletter for the latest coronavirus updates](#) ]*

Edmonton Public Schools and Edmonton Catholic Schools have adjusted music classes, as well. Singing, cheering and shouting will not be allowed during in-person classes.

“Those children need to sing,” University of Alberta Chorale Saint-Jean

director Laurier Fagnan said. “Singing is part of our psyche, it’s part of our culture, it’s part of who we are as human beings.”

**READ MORE:** [No singing or dancing allowed as Ontario restaurant patios reopen](#)

Fagnan is the president of Choral Canada in addition to the director of UofA’s French choir. He said COVID-19 has shut down 28,000 choirs across the country.

He argues there’s not a lot of scientific data to indicate that singing creates a great risk for the spread of the coronavirus.

“What comes out of the mouth when you sing? Is it more than speaking? Is it as much as coughing and sneezing? What directions do the aerosols and droplets go in?” Fagnan said.

STORY CONTINUES BELOW ADVERTISEMENT

Fagnan will conduct a three-month study in an effort to answer those questions by testing 16 singers, with and without masks.



Health Matters: Singing a high-risk activity for COVID-19 transmission

However, [Alberta Health](#) lists singing as a high-risk activity. Congregational singing is strongly discouraged and singers are advised to separated from the audience and each other.

“Singing is an activity that has a higher risk of spreading the virus than simply talking to someone,” Dr. Deena Hinshaw said in May.

According to a report posted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the novel coronavirus swept through a Washington state choir that met for rehearsals in early March.

The report found two members of the Skagit Valley Chorale died of COVID-19, and as many as 87 per cent of choir members were found to have confirmed or probable cases.

STORY CONTINUES BELOW ADVERTISEMENT

“Transmission was likely facilitated by close proximity ... during practice and augmented by the act of singing,” the report said.



### Scott Radley Show



00:00 / 52:10

#### COVID-19

[Subscribe to podcast](#)

**The Brightest Conversation in Hamilton with Mike Fortune: Two-tier healthcare syste...** 52:10  
This week's edition of The Brightest Conversation in Hamilton welcomes Mike Fortune bac... Aug 28



**Preparing for COVID-19 cases in schools, Systemic racism and the shooting of Jacob Bl...** 46:36  
The Scott Thompson Show Podcast Hamilton's medical officer of health says that COVID-1... Aug 28



**PR Expert Elissa Freeman, on the big stories of the week** 18:28  
Elissa Freeman joined Scott to discuss the big events this week from the protests against t... Aug 28



**MPP Donna Skelly, on the start of the school year in Ontario & Hamilont's potential L...** 20:53  
MPP Donna Skelly joined Scott to discuss the education plan that has been brought forwar... Aug 28

#### RELATED NEWS

- [UCP government faces continued pressure over Alberta school re-entry plan](#)
- [Coronavirus: Should masks be mandatory Alberta schools?](#)
- [COVID-19: Alberta schools to stay closed for rest of academic year; province eyeing early summer start](#)

© 2020 Global News, a division of Corus Entertainment Inc.



JOURNALISTIC STANDARDS



REPORT AN ERROR

Coronavirus

COVID-19

Alberta Coronavirus

University of Alberta

+7

COMMENTS

#### SPONSORED STORIES



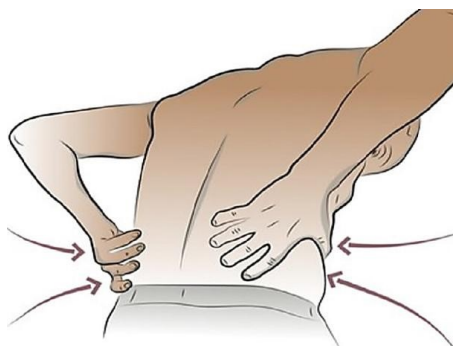


**Most wine drinkers in the US don't know these 5 simple Dos and Don'ts**

NakedWines.com | Sponsored



**The Astounding New Cadillac XT4**  
Cadillac XT4 | Sponsored Listing | Sponsored



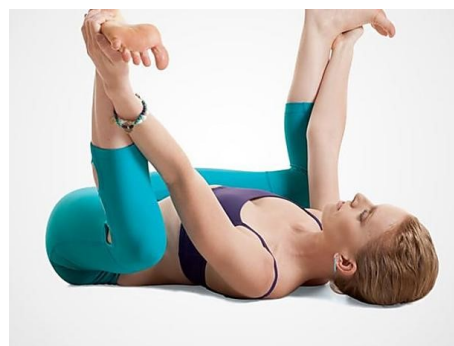
**Early Signals of Multiple Myeloma (Some May Surprise You)**

Multiple Myeloma | Sponsored Listings | Sponsored



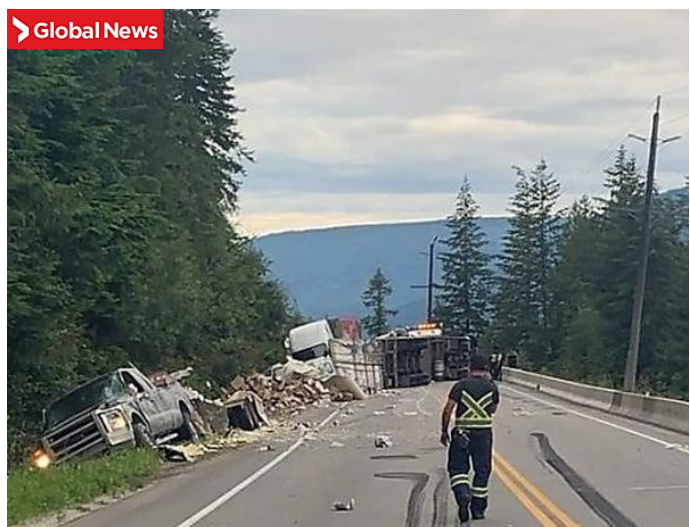
**Biggest Problem in America, According to Ron Paul**

Stansberry Research | Sponsored



**Chiropractors Baffled: Simple Stretch Relieves Years of Back Pain (Watch)**

Health News Tips Today | Sponsored



**Semi driver charged after 6-vehicle collision on Trans-Canada near Sicamous, B.C.**



**Roseanne Barr: Coronavirus a conspiracy to 'get rid of my generation'**



**7 Must Have Gadgets That You Have Been Looking For (Ideal As Gifts)**

Saving Your Pennies | Sponsored



**This Is Where the Majority of Singles Over 50 Are Finding Love in Saint...**

SilverSingles | Sponsored



**How You Could Combat Your Tooth Decay With This Simple Ritual**

Steel Bite Pro | Sponsored



**Stay in the loop**

Get a roundup of the most important and intriguing stories, delivered to your inbox

**SIGN UP**

**TRENDING**





Coronavirus: Canada extending international travel restrictions, mandatory quarantine until Sept. 30



Ontario reports 148 new coronavirus cases marking largest



Mike Weir surprises Calgary charity with video call and more

8258 VIEWED



'Black Panther' star Chadwick Boseman dies after cancer battle

81369 READ



Canada's top doctor 'optimistic' after Canada-China vaccine



'Black Panther' star Chadwick Boseman dead at 43

7413 VIEWED



B.C. reports 124 new COVID-19 cases, highest-ever single day jump

13565 READ



Bear walks into Revelstoke, B.C., liquor store

8489 VIEWED



Coronavirus: Canada's top doctor pursuing new vaccine options after deal with China fails

6497 VIEWED

MORE VIDEOS >

LIVE HEADLINES





### Erin O'Toole won't say whether he believes there is systemic racism in Canada

25 MINUTES AGO



### Huskies Athletics to focus on training and skill development

33 MINUTES AGO



### Far-right protesters rally against coronavirus measures, try to storm German parliament

47 MINUTES AGO



### Coronavirus: Tips to cope with a pandemic in the winter months

2 HOURS AGO  
**FLYERS**



### Former MLB star Ryan Dempster treats young B.C. ball players to a day at Nat Bailey Stadium

2 HOURS AGO

[MORE WEEKLY FLYERS >](#)

**petvalu**  
your pet • your store

**Summer Staycation**  
Great flyer deals on backyard play essentials and more

**Tap for Flyer**

**PETSMART**

**small pets big love**  
Introducing us getting a little bit wild

**Tap for Flyer**

**Bell**

Get a best-in-class device on a best-in-class network!

- ✓ A network that's top of its class
- ✓ An smartphones from our partners
- ✓ A plan with tons of data and features
- ✓ Cool connected things to keep you touch, anywhere

**Tap for Flyer**

**PETSMART**  
for the love of pets

EARN, REDEEM, REPEAT

Check out our **NEW** assortment of cat treats

**Tap for Flyer**



[About](#) [Principles & Practices](#) [Branded Content](#) [Contact us](#) [RSS](#) [Newsletter](#) [Notifications](#)

[Smart home](#)

©2020 Global News, a division of Corus Entertainment Inc. Corus News. All rights reserved. Powered by WordPress.com VIP

[Privacy Policy](#) / [Copyright](#) / [Terms of Use](#) / [Advertise](#) / [Advertising Standards Terms](#) / [Corus Entertainment](#)