



# Risk Management Considerations for Municipally Run Easter Egg Hunts

Let me paint you a picture:

- 100 small kids with baskets; some dressed up as bunnies
- Approximately 60 colourful hidden eggs
- A new municipal arena and
- A minor hockey team

Three! Two! One! Go!

They're off! 100 small children running wildly in the hallways donning large bunny ears. 100 small children jumping in the elevator for surely the Easter bunny would have tucked some in there. 100 small children bouncing up cold, hard, concrete arena steps with oversized wicker baskets caught between their feet. Over 50 small children without treats because the minor hockey team who arrived prior to the start of the hunt helped themselves. Happy Easter!

Occupiers are always responsible for keeping people safe on their premises but the risk is increased during a special event. Having additional people in attendance, excited children who are not paying attention to their surroundings and providing food are all elements requiring careful consideration.

## Risk Management Considerations

- Ensure your event is well thought out. Reserve a specific room or area for the hunt, such as a gymnasium.
- Loose wires are common trip hazards - if you have electronic equipment at the event, ensure that wires are tucked neatly away to avoid visitors tripping over them.
- Ensure an adequate number of volunteers and staff members are present and briefed about the event. Communication is very important - by knowing where first aid kits are, who is responsible for what role and what to do in the event of an accident, most potential problems can be avoided.
- Post signs regarding the event so it is clear where Participants should be and which areas are off-limits.
- Note that dressing up could result in a trip hazard.
- Do not include stairs in the area where the hunt is located.
- Be selective about the types of candy you place in the eggs. Parents may not have the time to check what their child is eating. Small candies pose a choking hazard.

- Keep food allergies in mind when selecting the candy.
- Have participants register and sign a Waiver so you know who will be present at the event and that every child is supervised. You will also know how many participants to expect.
- Have a Contingency plan. In the event of bad weather, consider moving the event indoors.

While Intact Public Entities Inc. does its best to provide useful general information and guidance on matters of interest to its clients, statutes, regulations and the common law continually change and evolve, vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, and are subject to differing interpretations and opinions. The information provided by Intact Public Entities Inc. is not intended to replace legal or other professional advice or services. The information provided by Intact Public Entities Inc. herein is provided "as is" and without any warranty, either express or implied, as to its fitness, quality, accuracy, applicability or timeliness. Before taking any action, consult an appropriate professional and satisfy yourself about the fitness, accuracy, applicability or timeliness of any information or opinions contained herein. Intact Public Entities Inc. assumes no liability whatsoever for any errors or omissions associated with the information provided herein and furthermore assumes no liability for any decision or action taken in reliance on the information contained in these materials or for any damages, losses, costs or expenses in a way connected to it. Intact Public Entities Inc. is operated by a wholly owned subsidiary of Intact Financial Corporation. Intact Design® and Risk Management Centre of Excellence® are registered trademarks of Intact Financial Corporation or its affiliates. All other trademarks are properties of their respective owners. TM & © 2021 Intact Public Entities Inc. and/or its affiliates. All Rights Reserved.