

Hair salons to follow Kuching lead by imposing RM5 surcharge

POSTED ON JUNE 9, 2020, TUESDAY AT 12:02 AM



PPE and disinfectant at Alex Hair salon ready for re-opening today.

SIBU: Hair salons here will follow their Kuching counterparts by imposing RM5 surcharge per customer when business resumes today (June 9).

Sibu Hair Salons Association chairman Alex Ting said the surcharge is very reasonable to offset cost incurred for personal protective equipment like disposable gown, face mask, face shield, gloves as well as sanitising and cleaning costs.

"We will explain and get prior customers consent. Hairstylist are facing financial constraints too with shops closed since March 18. Personally, I will be flexible on the surcharge to meet the requirement of each client," shared the owner of Alex Hair Salon at Brooke Drive 18.

Ting said members were informed of the standard operating procedures (SOPs) to resume business for the safety of staff and customers.

"As an added precaution, my salon will take customers by appointment only while observing social distancing with only a few customers at a time," he added optimistically as he expected business to be good with many people eager to have overgrown locks and ugly tresses taken care of by professionals.

Social distancing in place at Alex Hair Salon.

Malaysia Hairdressing Association member Steven Yek said his salon will absorb the surcharge.

"I will liaise with my association to see if it could absorb the surcharge for PPE required. If not, I will still definitely not impose the surcharge," he said, adding his salon The Masterpiece Hair Studio on the ground floor of Star Mega Mall will resume business today.

Meanwhile, Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Alexander Nanta Linggi said the surcharge imposed for hair cutting and hairdressing services should be reflective of the extra costs shouldered by the businesses and be clearly listed to avoid confusion.

Nanta said he had been informed that the price for haircut and hairdressing services would increase by about RM5 to RM10 as stated by Malaysian Hairdressing Groups Association.

He said customers may lodge complaints of unreasonable surcharge at <https://eaduan.kpdnhepp.gov.my>.

Alternatively, call 1-800-886-800 or send email to e-aduan@kpdnhep.gov.my or download mobile application 'Ez Aduan KPDNHEP'.

The Enforcement Command Centre may also be contacted at 03-8882-6088/6245, WhatsApp to 019-2794317 or make a complaint at any of the ministry's state offices.

He added that members of the public could refer to frequently asked questions and standard operating procedure for haircutting, hairdressing and beauty salons at www.kpdnhep.gov.my or follow social media pages at Facebook, Instagram and Twitter at [@mykpdnhep](https://www.instagram.com/mykpdnhep).

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