



# Renfrew County and District Health Unit

"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"

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October 30, 2020

**TO: All Persons Residing in or present in Renfrew County and District of South Algonquin**

**RE: Class Order made pursuant to Section 22 (5.0.1) of the Health Protection and Promotion Act**

This Order is issued to those who:

- a) are a confirmed case or probable case of COVID-19;
- b) have signs and symptoms of COVID-19, have been tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting the results of their test;
- c) otherwise have reasonable grounds to believe they now have one or more symptoms (even mild symptoms) of COVID-19;  
or
- d) are a close contact\* of a person diagnosed with COVID-19 or are a close contact of a person identified as a probable case of COVID-19;

\*Close contact means you are caring for or living in the same household with someone who has COVID-19 or have otherwise been identified as a close contact by the Medical Officer of Health or Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) staff acting under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health.

## **RCDHU HEREBY ORDERS YOU TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:**

1. Immediately begin self-isolation in accordance with instructions provided by RCDHU. This includes remaining in your home or isolation facility. Do not go outside, unless on to a private balcony or enclosed yard where you can avoid close contact with others. You must not have any visitors into your home except as permitted by RCDHU.
2. Remain in isolation until the expiry of a 14-day period that begins on the day on which you first show symptoms, are tested, or are diagnosed with COVID-19, whichever is earliest, or on the last day of close contact, unless otherwise instructed by RCDHU in accordance with the current Ministry of Health guidelines: [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019\\_testing\\_clearing\\_cases\\_guidance.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_testing_clearing_cases_guidance.pdf)
3. During the self-isolation period, conduct yourself in such a manner as not to expose another person to infection of COVID-19 by following infection control instructions on [www.rcdhu.com](http://www.rcdhu.com) or given to you by RCDHU or any other staff of a healthcare facility to which you may seek or receive treatment.

4. Keep away from vulnerable persons including persons who have an underlying medical condition, compromised immune system from a medical condition or treatment, person 60 years of age or older, or person who is reliant upon a homeless shelter or other congregate living setting.
5. Inform RCDHU if you require any help or resources to properly self- isolate or while you are self-isolating such as food, water, accommodation, clothing, appropriate medical treatment and family or other religious arrangements. To do so, contact RCDHU at (613)732-3629, extension 977.
6. Provide RCDHU with the names and contact information of close contacts during relevant dates immediately upon request.
7. Follow any further instructions provided by RCDHU pertaining to COVID-19 and the terms and conditions of this Order.
8. Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening (e.g. difficulty breathing by calling 911) and mention your COVID-19 related diagnosis or symptoms.
9. The requirements of this Order are subject to necessary modifications for the following persons or class of persons:
  - a. a person or class of persons who, in the opinion of RCDHU is asymptomatic and provides an essential service, for the limited purpose of providing that essential service;
  - b. a person receiving essential medical services or treatments, whether or not related to COVID-19; or
  - c. where a person's isolation, in the opinion of RCDHU, would not be in the public interest.

#### **THE REASONS FOR THIS ORDER ARE:**

1. COVID-19 is a disease of public health significance and has been designated as a communicable disease of public health significance under Ontario Regulation 135/18 as amended of the Health Protection and Promotion Act. COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization and the Province of Ontario has declared an emergency under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act as a result of the pandemic.
2. COVID-19 causes acute and severe respiratory illness and death in humans. COVID-19 is transmitted from person to person predominantly through respiratory droplets that are released from the nose and mouth, through contact with contaminated surfaces, and through poor hand hygiene. COVID-19 may be transmitted from persons who have minimal or no signs or symptoms of illness.
3. COVID-19 is present in RCDHU. An increase in the number of cases of COVID-19 will increase community disease transmission, increase the potential for outbreaks in congregate settings, and affect the morbidity and mortality of persons living within RCDHU jurisdiction.

**THIS ORDER MUST BE IMPLEMENTED TO ENSURE THAT:**

Community transmission of COVID-19 is minimized or eliminated.

**I AM OF THE OPINION, ON REASONABLE AND PROBABLE GROUNDS THAT:**

1. A communicable disease exists or may exist or there is an immediate risk of an outbreak of a communicable disease in the health unit;
2. The communicable disease presents a risk to the health of persons served in the health unit; and
3. The requirements specified in this order are necessary to decrease or eliminate the risk to health presented by the communicable disease.

**IT IS ALSO THE OPINION OF RCDHU** that the delivery of notice of this Order to each and every member of the class is likely to cause a delay that could significantly increase the risk to the health of any person residing in the health unit, so notice shall be provided through the public media and the internet via posting on the RCDHU website: [www.rcdhu.com](http://www.rcdhu.com)

**TAKE NOTICE THAT** an Order by a Medical Officer of Health or a Public Health Inspector under this Act shall inform the person to whom it is directed that the person is entitled to a hearing by the Board if the person mails or delivers to the Medical Officer of Health or Public Health Inspector, as the case requires, and to the Board, within fifteen days after a copy of the Order is served on the person, notice in writing requiring a hearing and the person may also require such a hearing. The notice must be sent to:

Renfrew County and District Health Unit  
Healthy Environments  
1100 Pembroke St. E  
Pembroke, Ontario K8A 8S5

and to:

The Health Services Appeal and Review Board  
Health Boards Secretariat  
151 Bloor Street West, 9th Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1S4

**AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT** although a hearing may be requested this Order takes effect when it is delivered to the person or business named in the Order.

**FAILURE** to comply with this Order is an offence for which you may be liable, on conviction, to a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for every day or part of each day on which the offence occurs or continues. RCDHU may apply for a court order to require a

person to be taken into custody and be admitted or detained in a hospital for a medical examination.

Further questions or concerns can be directed to 613-732-3629, Extension 977 daily between 8-4 pm.

Dated this 30<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020 at Pembroke in the Province of Ontario.

Sincerely,



Dr. Robert Cushman  
Acting Medical Officer of Health  
Renfrew County and District Health Unit