



Renfrew County and District Health Unit
"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, 4:10 p.m. October 2, 2020)

Ontario Government Introduces Additional Public Health Measures

Today, the Ontario Government announced the implementation of additional public health measures, **effective Saturday, October 3, 2020 at 12:01 a.m.** Additionally, the provincial government has **extended orders** currently in force under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020 (ROA) to October 22, 2020.*

The new restrictions pertain to indoor enclosed public spaces such as restaurants, bars, gyms and other businesses and were adopted through the amended order [O. Reg 364/20](#) (Rules for Areas in Stage 3 under the *Reopening Ontario [A Flexible Response to COVID-19] Act, 2020*). The new restrictions include:

- **Mandating the use of face coverings in all public indoor settings** across the province, such as businesses, facilities and workplaces, with limited exemptions, including corrections and developmental services;
- Extending the pause on any further reopening of businesses, facilities, and organizations for an additional 28 days, unless already permitted to open under [O. Reg 364/20](#); and
- **Pausing social circles/bubbles** and **advising that all Ontarians allow close contact only with people living in their own household** and maintain two metres physical distancing from everyone else. Individuals who live alone may consider having close contact with another household.

Further announcements are to come regarding additional guidance for seniors (70 and over) on how to minimize their risk of acquiring COVID-19, including for upcoming annual gatherings such as Thanksgiving and Remembrance Day.

It is also imperative that everyone do their part to stay home if they are sick, avoid contact with people who are ill, limit their social activities, practice physical distancing (2 metres), wear a mask/face covering when physical distancing cannot be maintained, wash their hands, and use the COVID Alert App.

RCDHU is reminding all residents to complete the COVID-19 [self-assessment tool](#) or COVID-19 [school and childcare screening tool](#) **daily** before going to work, school or daycare, to monitor for symptoms and proper guidance.

For more information, visit RCDHU's website at <https://www.rcdhu.com/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-2/> or call 613-735-8654 or 1-800-267-1097.

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