



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

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, 1:15 p.m., February 26, 2021)

Concern in Arnprior and Area Over Rising Number of COVID-19 Cases

Today, Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) is confirming that over the past week 9 individuals that reside in the Town of Arnprior and 5 individuals that reside in the Township of McNab/Braeside have tested positive for novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). There are currently 37 high-risk contacts and 6 local businesses affected. Many of these cases attended the same social gathering, and several others are considered close contacts of those that attended the gathering.

RCDHU has directed all persons and business impacted to self-monitor and/or self-isolate until exposure and risks have been assessed by the contact tracing team at RCDHU. "This will continue to be followed by further testing and investigation, which could lead to more cases over the coming days," states Dr. Robert Cushman, Acting Medical Officer of Health, RCDHU.

"I really encourage the residents of Arnprior to take this virus seriously and not let your guard down," states Mayor Walter Stack, Town of Arnprior.

Mayor Tom Peckett, Township of McNab/Braeside expresses that, "With the new variants of concern spreading in other regions across Ontario, we want to ensure that we are taking all necessary precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and keep our community, family and friends safe."

RCDHU wants to remind residents that the [Section 22 order for Self-Isolation](#) requires all residents of RCD, to immediately begin self-isolation if they:

- are a confirmed case or probable case of COVID-19;
- have signs and symptoms of COVID-19, have been tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting the results of their test;
- believe they now have one or more symptoms (even mild symptoms) of COVID-19; or
- 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.

"RCD has been classified as a Green Zone for weeks now, which will likely change if cases continue to rise. Businesses are finally getting the chance to open again, to employ their workers, and to serve their customers delayed needs. The last thing we want to do is to jeopardize our status and clamp down yet again on the economy, or possibly implement more stringent rules in the Arnprior Area," notes Dr. Cushman.

It is imperative that everyone do their part to stay home if they are sick, avoid contact with people who are ill, practice physical distancing (2 metres), wear a mask/face covering when physical distancing cannot be maintained, wash their hands, use the COVID Alert App, and complete the [COVID-19 self-assessment tool](#) or [COVID-19 school and child care self-assessment tool](#) **daily** if you go 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 613-732-3629 or 1-800-267-1097.

- 30 -

Renfrew County and District Health Unit
Fax: 613-735-3067
media@rcdhu.com
www.rcdhu.com