



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

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, 2:45 p.m., November 19, 2021)

Directives for household contacts of individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 – A message from Dr. Robert Cushman

Recent increases in the number of cases in Renfrew County and District (RCD) and the rapid spread to household contacts are major concerns.

To limit further spread and best protect our community, **Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) requires all household contacts, including those who are vaccinated and asymptomatic, to isolate at home until you have received a negative PCR test result, or a public health official has advised you otherwise.** This direction is made in accordance with the [Class Order](#) made pursuant to Section 22 (5.0.1) of the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

"Our track record in RCD is strong with nearly 90% of eligible individuals having received their first dose, and 86% of residents fully vaccinated. There is a strong adherence to masking and physical distancing and most indoor settings require proof of vaccination for entry," states Dr. Robert Cushman, Acting Medical Officer of Health, RCDHU. Imminent approval by Health Canada of vaccines for the 5 to 11 year-old age group will add further community protection.

"We all need to do our part to get through the colder months without serious setbacks. This includes getting vaccinated, adhering to masking and physical distancing, limiting gatherings to small groups especially when gathering indoors, and cooperating with public health officials if you are identified as a case or a contact," notes Dr. Cushman.

"We recognize that this is an inconvenience and want to thank the residents of RCD for their cooperation and efforts to limit the spread. I encourage you all to keep up the good work," finishes Dr. Cushman.

To book a COVID-19 test with Renfrew County Virtual Triage Assessment Centre (VTAC) visit <https://rcvtac.ca/>. If you cannot book online call VTAC at 1-844-727-6404.

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

For more information, visit [RCDHU's website](#) or call 613-732-3629 or 1-800-267-1097.

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