



PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER
October 15, 2020

(Under Section 38 and Subsection 45(2) of *The Public Health Act, 1994*)

Control of Transmission of 2019 Novel Coronavirus

WHEREAS, I, Dr. Saqib Shahab, an official with the Ministry of Health and the Chief Medical Health Officer for the Province of Saskatchewan, have been authorized by the Minister of Health to act under section 45 of *The Public Health Act, 1994*;

AND WHEREAS, public gatherings and visiting hospitals, long-term care facilities and personal care homes can pose a public health threat due to the probability for the transmission of COVID-19 which has been designated as a category 1 communicable disease pursuant to clause 3(1) of *The Disease Control Regulations*;

AND WHEREAS, due to the situation continuing to evolve, effective October 16th, 2020, I hereby rescind my Public Health Order dated September 10th, 2020, and by virtue of the foregoing and under section 38 and subsection 45(2) of *The Public Health Act, 1994*:

1. I hereby ORDER and DIRECT that in the Province of Saskatchewan:

- (a) Except in the case of family members living in the same household, indoor private gatherings held in private dwellings or out buildings associated with private dwellings shall not exceed 15 people.
- (b) Indoor public gatherings over 30 people, and outdoor private and public gatherings over 30 people are prohibited except in the following circumstances where 2 meter distancing between people can be maintained:
 - (i) Settings where people are distributed into multiple rooms or buildings, and workplaces; and
 - (ii) Are a critical public service or an allowable business service.

In the event that a critical public service or allowable business service is unable to maintain 2 meter distancing, other measures must be in place to prevent the transmission of COVID-19. This may include, but is not limited to, self-monitoring of personal health and supervision by Infection Prevention and Control Officers or Occupational Health and Safety.

This section does not apply to critical public services, allowable business services, events and activities to the extent that the guidelines applicable to those events or activities found in the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan on the Government of Saskatchewan website (Saskatchewan.ca) explicitly permits or requires an alternative gathering size for a specific event or activity or to an organization exempted by the Chief Medical Health Officer in accordance with subsection 1(n).

In such a case, the gathering size explicitly permitted or required shall not be exceeded and specified physical distancing shall be maintained.

- (c) Unless otherwise required by another section in this order, members of a household are exempt from physical distance requirements from members of their own household.
- (d) All persons that have been identified by a Medical Health Officer as having novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) shall immediately go into mandatory self-isolation until such time as a Medical Health Officer determines that they no longer pose a public health threat.
- (e) All persons that have been identified by a Medical Health Officer as a close contact of a person or persons with COVID-19 shall go into mandatory self-isolation for 14 days from the date of last having been exposed to COVID-19;
- (f) All symptomatic persons that have been directed to receive a test for COVID-19 or are awaiting test results shall go into mandatory self-isolation until such time as a Medical Health Officer determines that they no longer pose a public health threat;
- (g) All persons that have traveled internationally shall go into mandatory self-isolation for 14 days from date of arrival back into Canada, except for the following persons if such persons are supervised by Infection Prevention and Control Officers or Occupational Health and Safety in the workplace:
 - (i) specific health care workers;
 - (ii) workers who provide emergency health care services;
 - (iii) workers who are essential to maintain essential services;
 - (iv) workers who maintain supply chain; or
 - (v) rail, airline and transport crews.
- (h) All persons that become symptomatic while on mandatory self-isolation shall call Healthline 811 and follow Healthline directives; and
- (i) All persons who are household members or contacts of a person with COVID-19 shall immediately go into mandatory self-isolation for 14 days and call Healthline 811 if they become symptomatic and follow Healthline directives.
- (j) All child care facilities that are co-located with or with-in a long term care or personal care home that meet the above restriction shall be segregated with a private entrance and separate space so that there are no shared common areas with the long term care home or personal care home, as the case may be, and no interaction between childcare children and residents of the home. The child care facility may continue to operate subject to any restrictions placed on all child care facilities.

- (k) All businesses that are not a critical public service or allowable business services shall close. The list of critical public services and allowable business services for each region is found on the Government of Saskatchewan website: Saskatchewan.ca. All businesses permitted to operate must do so in accordance with any restrictions found on the critical public services and allowable business services list applicable to their region. All businesses permitted to operate shall do so in accordance with (a) and in a manner that prevents transmission of COVID-19.
- (l) All businesses that are not a critical public service or an allowable business service are permitted to provide online sales.
- (m) Critical public services, allowable business services, events and activities that the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan has a specific guideline for must be operated in accordance with the applicable guideline found in the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan posted on the Government of Saskatchewan website: Saskatchewan.ca.

2. I hereby ORDER and DIRECT that in the Province of Saskatchewan:

- (a) For the purposes of section 2 of this Order, “Licensee” refers to:
 - (i) operator of a special-care home designated pursuant to *The Provincial Health Authority Act*;
 - (ii) the licensee of a personal care home licensed pursuant to *The Personal Care Homes Act*;
 - (iii) an individual who, or corporation that, under a contract or subcontract with an operator of a special care-home or a licensee of a personal care home, provides or arranges for the provision of health care services or support services within the facility.
- (b) For the purposes of section 2 of this Order, “Facility” refers to:
 - (i) A special-care home designated pursuant to *The Provincial Health Authority Act*;
 - (ii) A personal care home licensed pursuant to *The Personal Care Homes Act*.
- (c) For the purposes of section 2 of this Order, “Staff Member” refers to
 - (i) any individual who is employed by, or provides services under a contract with, the Licensee of a Facility; and
 - (ii) any volunteer or student that assists in the provision of services within the Facility.
- (d) Licensees must restrict the movement of Staff Members among Facilities by ensuring that each Staff Member works in only one Facility.
- (e) To assist a Licensee in carrying out their obligation in section 2(d), a Staff Member who is employed to provide services within more than one Facility must as soon as reasonably possible disclose that fact to their supervisor at each Facility where they provide services.
- (f) A Licensee may seek approval from a medical health officer to permit a Staff Member to work in more than one Facility, if they are unable to ensure adequate staffing levels in a Facility as a result of complying with this Order.
- (g) This section does not apply to dietitians, medical laboratory technologists, medical laboratory assistants, nurse practitioners, home care workers, occupational therapists, public health nurses, public health officers (inspectors),

paramedics, pharmacists, physicians, physiotherapists, resident physicians, speech language pathologists, staff who provide podiatry type care, inter-facility transport staff, delivery persons, trades people, regular and biochemical waste removal people, biomedical engineers, election administrators, visitors or any other person or class of person who are exempted by the medical health officer.

- (h) Section 2(d) and 2(e) is not intended to restrict Staff Members from employment that is not in a Facility, such as home care, group homes, or other employment outside a Facility, with the exception of employment at a hospital.
- (i) Staff Members are not permitted to work at a Facility if they also work at a hospital.

3. I hereby ORDER and DIRECT that in the Province of Saskatchewan:

- (a) For the purposes of section 3 of this Order, “Facility” means the same as defined in section 2 above but is amended to include:
 - (i) All facilities designated pursuant to *The Provincial Health Authority Act* operated by the Provincial Health Authority as defined in *The Provincial Health Authority Act*;
 - (ii) Hospital as designated pursuant to *The Provincial Health Authority Act* operated by an affiliate prescribed in *The Provincial Health Authority Administration Regulations*;
 - (iii) The following facilities operated by the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency continued pursuant to *The Cancer Agency Act*:
 - i. Saskatoon Cancer Centre;
 - ii. Allan Blair Cancer Centre; and
 - iii. The Hematology Clinic.
- (b) For the purposes of section 3 of this Order, “Licensee” means the same as defined in section 2 above but is amended to include:
 - (i) The Provincial Health Authority as defined in *The Provincial Health Authority Act*;
 - (ii) The Saskatchewan Cancer Agency continued pursuant to *The Cancer Agency Act*.
- (c) For the purposes of Section 3 of this Order, “Staff Member” refers to:
 - (i) any individual who is employed by, or provides services under a contract with, the Licensee of a Facility; and
 - (ii) any volunteer or student that assists in the provision of services within the Facility.
- (d) For the purposes of Section 3 of this Order, “Individual” means the same as Staff Member but also includes all individuals entering the Facility, except individuals entering for the purposes of receiving care.
- (e) Health screening shall occur as follows:
 - (i) Staff Members shall undergo health screening prior to or upon entry to the Facility, which must include a temperature check. Any Staff Members who display or disclose signs or symptoms of COVID-19 shall be denied entry to the Facility. All Staff Members shall undergo a temperature check prior to leaving the Facility. All exceedances temperatures shall be logged by the Licensee.
 - (ii) Individuals who are not Staff Members shall undergo health screening, which must include a temperature check prior to or upon entry to the Facility. Any of these Individuals who display or disclose signs or

symptoms of COVID-19 shall be denied entry to the Facility. All exceedances temperatures shall be logged by the Licensee.

Individuals providing direct patient care or working in patient care areas must wear a surgical/procedure mask continuously, at all times and in all areas of the Facility, if they are either involved in direct patient contact or cannot maintain adequate physical distancing (2 meters) from patients and other Individuals.

Individuals who do not work in patient care areas or do not have direct patient contact are only required to mask if entry into patient care areas is required and physical distancing (2 meters) cannot be maintained.

This order remains in effect until in the opinion of the Chief Medical Health Officer, there is no longer a public health threat.

DATED at Regina, Saskatchewan, on the 15th day of October, 2020.



Dr. Saqib Shahab FRCPC
Government of Saskatchewan
Chief Medical Health Officer