

## **CLASS ORDER**

**made pursuant to Section 22 (5.0.1) of the Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.H.7**

This Class Order is issued and effective immediately at date and time of issue, November 23, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. All previous versions of this Class Order regarding self-isolation, first issued on December 30, 2020, are revoked and replaced with this order.

**To: All persons residing or present in the area served by the Timiskaming Health Unit who:**

- a) Are a confirmed case or probable case of COVID-19;
- b) Have new symptoms (even mild symptoms) or worsening symptoms of COVID-19, have been tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting the results of their tests;
- c) Otherwise have reasonable grounds to believe they now have symptoms (even mild symptoms) of COVID-19, or have had such symptoms within the past 10 days; and have not had a COVID test since developing those symptoms;
- d) Are a close contact of a person identified in (a) even if they do not themselves have any symptoms of COVID-19; or
- e) Have been advised to self-isolate by the Timiskaming Health Unit, including in circumstances other than those in a., b., c. or d. above; or
- f) Are a parent, or person with responsibilities of a parent, of a person under 16 years of age in (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) who resides or is present in the Timiskaming Health Unit area.

**I, Dr. Glenn Corneil, Acting Medical Officer of Health for the Timiskaming Health Unit, order you to comply with the following actions:**

1. Isolate yourself immediately in accordance with all instructions provided by the Timiskaming Health Unit. This includes remaining in your home (in a private room if sharing with roommates or family members) or isolation facility. Do not go outside, unless on to a private balcony or enclosed yard where you can avoid close encounters with others. You must not have any visitors into your home except as permitted by the Timiskaming Health Unit.
2. For persons in category a) above, you must remain in self-isolation:
  - Until the expiry of the 10-day isolation period of communicability (infectiousness) which begins on the day on which you first show symptoms, are tested or are diagnosed with COVID-19 as directed by the Timiskaming Health Unit or another health unit, or for a duration as otherwise directed by the Timiskaming Health Unit or another health unit; as long as on the final day you are required to be in self-isolation you have no fever and your symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours (48 hours if your symptoms are gastrointestinal, e.g., nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or stomach pain).
  - If you have a fever and/or your other symptoms are not improving on the final day of self-isolation, contact the Timiskaming Health Unit for direction at 705-647-4305 ext. 7 (toll free 1-866-747-4305 ext. 7).
3. For persons in category b) above, you must remain in self-isolation until you receive a negative test result, have no fever and your symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours (48 hours if your symptoms are gastrointestinal, e.g., nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or stomach pain). If

you receive a positive result, you are then subject to this order as a person described in a) above.

4. For persons in category c) above:
  - If tested, you must remain in self-isolation until you receive a negative test result, have no fever and your symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours (48 hours if your symptoms are gastrointestinal, e.g., nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or stomach pain). If you receive a positive result, you are then subject to the order as a person described in a) above.
  - If not tested for COVID-19, you are then subject to this order as a person described in a) above, i.e., as a probable case of COVID-19.
5. For persons in category d) above, remain in isolation, even if you are not experiencing any symptoms or have tested negative, until the expiry of a 10-day period that begins on the day you were last in close contact with a person identified in a) above, unless otherwise directed by the Timiskaming Health Unit. The following also apply:
  - If tested, and you receive a positive result, you are then subject to this order as a person described in category a) above; see paragraph 2 above for directions.
  - If tested, and you receive a negative test result, complete the remaining 10-day period of isolation.
  - If you develop symptoms and do not get tested, you are then subject to the order as a person described in category a) above, i.e., as a probable case of COVID-19.
6. For persons in category e) above, you must remain in self-isolation for the duration directed by the Timiskaming Health Unit.
7. For persons in category f) above, you are to ensure that the child in a), b), c), d) or e) above, for whom you have the responsibilities of a parent, follows the directions in this order which apply to them.
8. 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 the Public Health Ontario website located at <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/novel-coronavirus/public-resources>, and as given to you by the Timiskaming Health Unit or any other staff of a health care facility at which you may seek or receive treatment.
9. Inform the Timiskaming Health Unit if you require any help or resources to properly self-isolate or while you are self-isolating such as food, medication, water, accommodation, clothing, appropriate medical treatment, and family or other religious arrangements. To do so, call 705-647-4305 ext. 7 (toll free 1-866-747-4305 ext. 7).
10. Provide, immediately upon request, all information requested and follow any further directions provided to you by the Timiskaming Health Unit and/or other public health staff pertaining to COVID-19 and/or the terms of this order. This includes, but is not limited to, sharing the names and contact information for all contacts and such other information as may be requested by the Timiskaming Health Unit and/or other public health staff to permit appropriate case and contact management for COVID-19.
11. During the periods described in 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 above, remain reachable for monitoring and/or case and contact management by the Timiskaming Health Unit and/or other public health staff.
12. Follow any further directions provided to you by the Timiskaming Health Unit pertaining to COVID-19 and the terms and conditions of this order.

13. If your illness is worsening (for example, difficulty breathing) and you seek medical attention and/or call 911, report your COVID-19-related diagnosis, exposure, and/or symptoms to the 911 dispatcher and/or the health professionals attending to you.
14. The requirements of this order are subject to necessary modifications for persons or a class or persons, such as:
  - a. A person or class of persons who, in the opinion of the Timiskaming Health Unit, is asymptomatic and is required to provide an essential service\*\*, using mandated PPE, for the limited purpose of providing that essential service;
  - b. A person or class of person whose isolation, in the opinion of the Timiskaming Health Unit, would not be in the public interest; or
  - c. A person or class of persons who, for other reasons, as authorized by the Acting Medical Officer of Health or designate, require modifications or this order.

\*\*essential service means clinical health care that would, in the opinion of the Acting Medical Officer of Health, be severely compromised without the availability of the person or class of persons to provide the service.

15. If you have any questions about what you must do, contact the Timiskaming Health Unit for direction at 705-647-4305 ext. 7 (toll free 1-866-747-4305 ext. 7).

**THE REASONS FOR THE ORDER ARE THAT:**

1. COVID-19, a disease caused by a novel coronavirus, is designated as a disease of public health significance and a communicable disease pursuant to Ontario Regulation 135/18 under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.
2. COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. The Province of Ontario has enacted emergency orders under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, continued under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020, as a result of the pandemic.
3. COVID-19 can cause acute and severe respiratory illness in humans. While most people with COVID-19 will recover on their own, complications from COVID-19 can also include serious conditions like pneumonia, cardiovascular disorders or kidney failure and, in some cases, death. People at high risk of such complications include seniors and people with chronic medical conditions, e.g., diabetes, lung problems, immune deficiency and cardiovascular disease.
4. There are no specific treatments for COVID-19; while evidence confirms that vaccines now available likely reduce COVID-19 transmission and the risk of severe illness and hospitalization if acquired, Public Health Ontario continues to monitor the impact of vaccination.
5. COVID-19 is present in the Timiskaming Health Unit and therefore poses a risk to the health of the residents of the Timiskaming Health Unit through community transmission.
6. The COVID-19 virus is spread from an infected person to an uninfected person primarily at short range through unprotected close contact and exposure to large and small respiratory particles and possible but less common transmission over longer distance under favourable conditions.
7. The COVID-19 period of communicability or infectiousness is understood to be up to 10 days for most people.
8. The COVID-19 incubation period (the period between exposure to an infection and the appearance of the first symptoms) can be up to 14 days, however, is most commonly up to 10 days.

9. The number of cases and/or deaths continues to rise in the Timiskaming Health Unit.
10. Of particular concern is recent transmission across Ontario, including in the area served by the Timiskaming Health Unit, of variants of the COVID-19 virus identified to be of great concern given their potential for increased transmission and increased capacity to cause illness and death.
11. To contain the spread of COVID-19, individuals experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or who are infected with COVID-19, as well as close contacts of individuals infected with COVID-19, are required to isolate themselves from other people (i.e., self-isolate) until they are deemed no longer infectious or potentially infectious. Isolation (i.e., self-isolation) is necessary to decrease the risk of spreading their infection to others.

**AND I AM OF THE OPINION, UPON 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 served by me;
2. The communicable disease presents a risk to the health of persons in the Health Unit served by me; and
3. The requirements specified in this Order are necessary in order to decrease or eliminate the risk to health presented by the communicable disease.

I am also of the opinion that the delivery of notice of this Order to each and every member of this class to whom it is directed is likely to cause a delay that could significantly increase the risk to the health of any person residing in the jurisdiction of the Timiskaming Health Unit. Therefore, notice shall be provided through the public media and the internet via posting at: [www.timiskaminghu.com](http://www.timiskaminghu.com).

The following definitions apply to this order:

- **Close contact** means a person who, within the past 10 days, has had a high-risk exposure to a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case. For example, a person who:
  - Lived with or otherwise had close, unprotected and prolonged contact, e.g., within 2 metres (6 feet) for more than 15 minutes, with a confirmed case of COVID-19 during their period of communicability (infectiousness); or
  - Has been identified by the Timiskaming Health Unit or another public health unit as a close contact.
- **Unprotected** means without appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). Appropriate PPE is using both medical-grade surgical/procedural mask and protective eyewear. A non-medical mask or face covering is not PPE.

**NOTICE:**

**TAKE NOTICE THAT**, each member of the class to whom this Order is directed is entitled to a hearing by the Health Services Appeal and Review Board if the member has delivered notice in writing to me and to the Health Services Appeal and Review Board (c/o Health Board Secretariat, 151 Bloor Street West, 9th Floor, Toronto, ON, M5S 2T5), requesting a hearing within 15 days after publication of this Order. All requests for review, submissions, materials, and inquiries should be sent to the Health Services Appeal and Review Board by e-mail to [hsarb@ontario.ca](mailto:hsarb@ontario.ca) or faxed to the Board at 416-327-8524.

**AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT**, although a hearing may be requested this Order takes effect when it is delivered to a member of the class or brought to the attention of a member of the class.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER** is an offence for which you may be liable to a set fine of \$880.00 (ticket), or not more than \$5,000 for every day or part of each day on which the offence occurs or continues to occur, on conviction.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER** may also result in further legal action being taken against you under sections 36(2), 35, 102 and other relevant provisions of the Health Protection and Promotion Act.



Dr. Glenn Corneil, B.Sc., M.D., C.C.F.P., F.C.F.P.  
Acting Medical Officer of Health/Chief Executive Officer