

CLASS ORDER
Made pursuant to section 22(5.0.1) of the
Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.H.7, as amended

DATE: May 22, 2020

- TO:** All persons residing or present in The Regional Municipality of Halton¹ ("Halton Region") who:
- a. Are identified as a person diagnosed with COVID-19;
 - b. Have been tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting the results of their test;
 - c. Otherwise have reasonable grounds to believe they now have one or more symptoms (even mild symptoms) of COVID-19, or have had such symptom(s) within the past 14 days;
 - d. Are a close contact of a person identified in a., b. or c.; or
 - e. Are a parent, or person with responsibilities of a parent, of a person under 16 years of age identified in a., b., c. or d. who resides or is present in Halton Region.

NOTE: The symptoms of COVID-19 and what is "close contact" are explained below.

I, Dr. Hamidah Meghani, Medical Officer of Health, The Regional Municipality of Halton (Halton Region Public Health), ORDER YOU TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS, effective 12:01 a.m. on May 22, 2020:

1. **Isolate yourself immediately** and remain in isolation from all other persons ("self-isolation").

While in self-isolation you must conduct yourself so you do not expose any another person to infection or possible infection from COVID-19. The instructions you must follow are set out in paragraph 3 below.

2. **Remain in self-isolation:**

- i. **If you are a person described in a., b. or c. above**, you must remain in self-isolation for 14 days after the day on which you first showed symptom(s) of COVID-19, were tested for COVID-19 or were diagnosed with COVID-19, whichever is earliest, as long as on the 14th day you have no fever and your other symptom(s) are improving.

"No fever" means that your temperature is 37.7 degrees Celsius or lower.

¹ Halton Region Health Unit as designated by s.1 and Schedule 11 of R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 553 under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*.

If you have a fever and/or your other symptom(s) are not improving on the 14th day, contact Halton Region Public Health for direction: 311 (in Halton) or toll-free 1-866-442-5866.

If you have been hospitalized for COVID-19 and remain in hospital 14 days after your symptom(s) began, you need testing to be cleared from self-isolation. This will be done at the hospital.

- ii. **If you are a person described in d. above**, you must remain in self-isolation until 14 days after the day on which you last had close contact with a person described in paragraphs a., b. or c. above.
- iii. **If you have questions about what you must do**, contact Halton Region Public Health for direction: 311 (in Halton) or toll-free 1-866-442-5866.

- 3. **The instructions you must follow** during self-isolation are in the Public Health Ontario fact sheet, *How to Self-Isolate* dated April 10, 2020 (or as current), attached as Schedule 1 to this Order.

All instructions in *How to Self-Isolate* (attached) form part of this Order.

This fact sheet may be updated from time to time. You must follow the instructions in the current version attached to this Order as posted at: www.halton.ca/COVID19.

- 4. **Inform Halton Region Public Health if you need help** to properly self-isolate or while you are self-isolating, e.g., food, water, accommodation, clothing, appropriate medical treatment and family or other religious arrangements. To do so, contact Halton Region Public Health at: 311 (in Halton) or toll-free 1-866-442-5866.
- 5. **Seek immediate medical attention if your illness is worsening** (e.g., you have difficulty breathing) by calling 911. Tell them of your COVID-19 diagnosis or symptom(s) and answer all screening questions accurately (including symptom and travel history) so that you will receive appropriate care and the right infection prevention and control precautions are taken.
- 6. The requirements of this Order are subject to necessary modifications for the following people, who should contact Halton Region Public Health for direction specific to their circumstances (311 in Halton or toll-free 1-866-442-5866):
 - i. A person who, in my opinion as Medical Officer of Health, provides an essential service, for the limited purpose of providing that essential service;
 - ii. A person receiving essential medical services or treatments, whether related to COVID-19 or not; or
 - iii. Where a person's self-isolation, in my opinion as Medical Officer of Health, would not be in the public interest.
- 7. **Follow any further directions provided to you personally by Halton Region Public Health** pertaining to COVID-19 and the terms of this Order.

8. As provided by section 23 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*, the terms of this Order apply to all persons under 16 years of age as served upon their parent(s), and any other person(s) who have the responsibilities of a parent, in relation to the person under 16 years of age, who shall ensure compliance with the Order by the person under 16 years of age.

The reasons for this 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 can cause acute and severe respiratory illness in humans.
3. While most people with COVID-19 will recover on their own, complications from COVID-19 can also include serious conditions like pneumonia 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.
4. There are no specific treatments for COVID-19 and no vaccine to prevent its transmission.
5. The spread of COVID-19 is of immediate and compelling public health importance in Halton Region:
 - a. On January 23, 2020, Halton Region Public Health initiated its Infectious Disease Emergency Response Plan in response to COVID-19;
 - b. On March 11, 2020, the spread of COVID-19 was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization;
 - c. On March 17, 2020 the spread of COVID-19 was declared an emergency in Ontario pursuant to the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.E.9, as amended, on the basis that COVID-19 constitutes a danger of major proportions;
 - d. On March 23, 2020, Halton Region declared a State of Emergency in support of Ontario's efforts to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic;
6. As of end of day on May 20, 2020, Ontario's Ministry of Health reports:
 - a. 24,187 confirmed cases, including 1,993 deaths, for an overall case fatality rate of about 8%;
 - b. About 13% of cases have ever been hospitalized;
 - c. Of those hospitalized, about 22% have received ICU care.
7. As of end of day on May 20, 2020, Halton Region reports:
 - a. 595 confirmed and 75 probable cases of COVID-19, including 25 deaths, for an overall case fatality rate of 4%;
 - b. About 13% of cases have ever been hospitalized;
 - c. Of those hospitalized, about 19% have received ICU care.
8. The number of cases and deaths continues to rise in Halton region and Ontario

9. COVID-19 is now present in Halton region and therefore poses a risk to the health of the residents of Halton region.
10. The COVID-19 virus is spread from an infected person to a close contact by direct contact or when respiratory secretions from the infected person enter the eyes, nose or mouth of another person.
11. To contain the spread of COVID-19, individuals experiencing one or more symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or who are infected with COVID-19, as well as their close contacts, are required to isolate themselves from other people and remain in isolation until they are no longer infectious or potentially infectious; self-isolation reduces the risk that these people will spread their infection to others.

I am of the opinion, on reasonable and probable grounds that:

- a. a communicable disease, COVID-19, exists or may exist or there is an immediate risk of an outbreak of this communicable disease in the health unit served by me;
- b. this communicable disease presents a risk to the health of persons in the health unit served by me; and
- c. the requirements specified in this Order are necessary in order to decrease or eliminate the risk to health presented by this communicable disease.

I am also of the opinion that the delivery of notice of this Order to each and every member of the 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 Halton region, so notice shall be provided through the public media and the internet via posting at: www.halton.ca/COVID19.

The following definitions apply to this Order:

"Close contact" means you are a person who, within the past 14 days:

- Provided care for a COVID-19 patient, including health care workers, family member or other caregivers; or
- Had other similar close physical contact with a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19 while the case was ill; or
- Lived with or otherwise had close, prolonged contact with a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19 while the case was ill; or
- Have been identified by Halton Region Public Health as a close contact of a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19.

"Halton Region Public Health" means the Medical Officer of Health or Halton Region Public Health staff acting under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health.

"Symptoms" of COVID-19 as listed on the Halton Region website, halton.ca/COVID19.

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 (at the address below) and to the Health Services Appeal and Review Board (at 151 Bloor Street West, 9th Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1S4) requesting a hearing within 15 days after publication of this Order or otherwise in accordance with applicable law. *In the context of the COVID-19 outbreak:*

- 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 or faxed to the Board at 416-327-8524.
- Instead of mail or courier, you may email your request for review to me at: accesshalton@halton.ca. Should you wish to do so, however, please carefully consider the use of electronic communication for sensitive information. Halton Region will use reasonable means to protect your information but, due to the inherent risks of electronic communication, confidentiality cannot be guaranteed.

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 may 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*.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER is an offence under section 101 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* for which you may be liable, on conviction, to a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 (for a person) for every day or part of each day on which the offence occurs or continues.

If you have any questions about this Order, please contact Halton Region Public Health by telephone at 311 (in Halton) or toll-free 1-866-442-5866, or by e-mail to accesshalton@halton.ca.



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The Regional Municipality of Halton
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L6M 3L1

This Order shall be posted at: www.halton.ca/COVID19

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

How to Self-Isolate

You must isolate yourself from others if you have COVID-19 symptoms or may have been exposed to COVID-19. If you start to feel worse, contact your health care provider or Telehealth (1-866-797-0000).

Stay home

- Do not use public transportation, taxis or rideshares.
- Do not go to work, school or other public places.



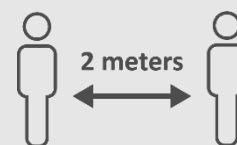
Avoid contact with others

- No visitors unless essential (e.g., care providers).
- Stay away from seniors and people with chronic medical conditions (e.g., diabetes, lung problems, immune deficiency).
- As much as possible, stay in a separate room from other people in your home and use a separate bathroom if you have one.
- Make sure that shared rooms have good airflow (e.g., open windows).
- If these steps are not possible, keep a distance of at least two metres from others at all times.



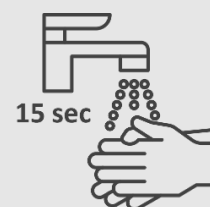
Keep your distance

- If you are in a room with other people, keep a distance of at least two metres and wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth.
- If you cannot wear a mask, people should wear a mask when they are in the same room as you.



Wash your hands

- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Dry your hands with a paper towel or with cloth towel that no one else will share.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.



Cover your coughs and sneezes

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hand.
- Throw used tissues in a lined wastebasket and wash your hands.
Lining the wastebasket with a plastic bag makes waste disposal safer.
- Clean your hands after emptying the wastebasket.



Wear a mask over your nose and mouth

- Wear a mask if you must leave your house to see a health care provider.
- Wear a mask when you are within two metres of other people, or stay in a separate room.
- If you do not have a mask, maintain two meters distance from people and cover your cough and sneezes. See our [Physical Distancing](#) fact sheet.



What should I do if I develop symptoms?

- Complete the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment](#).
- Contact Telehealth (1-866-797-0000) or your health care provider.
- Anyone with whom you had close physical contact (e.g., in your household) in the two days before your symptoms started or after symptoms started should also self-isolate. If you have questions about this, call your [local public health unit](#).
- Isolate for 14 days beginning when your symptoms started.
- After 14 days, you can stop isolating if you no longer have a fever and your symptoms have improved, but you should continue with [physical distancing measures](#).
- If you are still unwell at 14 days, contact Telehealth or your health care provider.

Learn about the virus

COVID-19 is a new virus. It spreads by respiratory droplets of an infected person to others with whom they have close contact such as people who live in the same household or provide care.

You can also access up to date information on COVID-19 on the Ontario Ministry of Health's website: ontario.ca/coronavirus.

The information in this document is current as of April 10, 2020.

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