

## Ministry of HealthMinistère de la SantéOffice of Chief Medical Officer<br/>of Health, Public HealthBureau du médecin hygiéniste<br/>en chef, santé publiqueTel.:416 212-3831Fax:416 325-8412Télec.:416 325-8412

April 22, 2022

## MEMORANDUM

## **TO: Sector Partners**

## RE: Continued Mask and Face Covering Requirements in Certain Settings beyond April 27, 2022

I am writing to advise you I have issued a Class Order (herein referred to as "Order") made pursuant to Section 22 under Section 77.1 of *the Health Protection and Promotion Act* (HPPA) to continue the requirement for masking in certain settings as of 12:00 a.m. (the first instant of) on April 27, 2022. These limited settings include indoor areas of:

- Public transit including indoor areas and vehicles, but excluding businesses or organizations that provide sightseeing or touring services
- Hospitals, including private hospitals, and psychiatric facilities
- Other health care settings:
  - Clinics that provide health care services (doctors' offices, other medical offices, Community Health Centres, public health/immunization clinics, mental health clinics, etc.)
  - o Laboratories and specimen collection centres
  - o Independent Health Facilities (e.g., dialysis, birth centres, nuclear medicine)
  - Employees and contractors of home and community care providers
- Long-term care homes

- Retirement homes
- Congregate care settings that provide care and services to medically and socially vulnerable individuals
- Shelters

For a detailed list of settings where wearing a mask will continue to apply, please see refer to the attached Order or visit <u>here</u>.

Please note this Order does not impose any additional requirements to those in currently in place under O. Reg. 364/20 of the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act* which will expire on April 27, 2022.

Maintaining mask and face covering requirements will provide additional protection in these specific settings and environments where individuals who are, or may be, at increased risk of severe outcomes are in close contact for extended periods of time, such as congregate living settings and on public transportation.

I encourage you to post a copy of this Order at all entrances/exits in all premises in your business or organization, in a conspicuous location visible to the public, that informs individuals on this requirement prior to entering.

It is intended this Order will remain in place until 12:00 a.m. (the first instant of) on June 11, 2022 unless otherwise extended or revoked. I will continue to monitor and assess key indicators and the COVID-19 situation across the province to assess the need for this and any other public health measures.

While the COVID-19 pandemic is not over, we have come to a place where we know what we need to do to manage this virus and to keep each other safe.

If your organization has any questions about this Order, please do not hesitate to contact your respective Ministry representative or my office via <u>CMOH@ontario.ca</u>.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,

the for

Kieran Michael Moore, MD, CCFP(EM), FCFP, MPH, DTM&H, FRCPC Chief Medical Officer of Health

c: Dr. Catherine Zahn, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health

Carlene Alexander, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility

Denise Cole, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Douglas Jones, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Transportation

Kate Manson-Smith, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Nancy Matthews, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Long-Term Care