



October 15, 2020

## COVID-19 Guidance for Post-Secondary Schools:

**PLEASE NOTE:** Effective October 10, 2020 the Province of Ontario has placed further restrictions on social gatherings, events and other establishments.

- Outdoor gatherings are now restricted to a maximum of 25 people and indoor gatherings are now restricted to maximum of 10 people (where physical distancing can be maintained).
- Capacity limits also reduced to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors for tour guide services, real estate open houses, meeting and event spaces, in-person teaching and instruction where physical distancing can be maintained (with exemptions for schools, childcare centres, colleges, etc.).
- Indoor and outdoor events or gatherings cannot be merged together (ex. gathering of 35 people, with 25 people outdoors and 10 people indoors is not permissible).
- Indoor food and drink service in restaurants, bar and other food and drink establishments is now prohibited.
- The following indoor sites are now closed: gyms and fitness centres (i.e. exercise classes and weight and exercise rooms), casino's, indoor cinemas, performing arts centres and venues, spectator areas in racing venues, interactive exhibits in museums, galleries, zoos, mall food courts etc.
- Indoor fitness, exercise or dance classes cannot be provided.
- The total number of members of the public permitted to be in a class, organized program or organized activity at any facility (including arenas and multi-purpose facilities) cannot exceed 10 people and each class, organized program or organized activity must take place in a separate room.
- Personal care services, where face coverings must be removed (like makeup application, beard trimming), are now prohibited.
- Team sports now limited to training sessions only (no games or scrimmages) and no spectators are permitted.

Post-secondary institutions (PSI's) should ensure that any re-opening plans and or protocols are consistent with [Ontario requirements](#), federal criteria, and any requirements identified by Ottawa Public Health (OPH) and the City of Ottawa. This includes reviewing and implementing measures from OPH's [Businesses and Workplaces – COVID-19 Information](#) and the City of Ottawa's [Business Reopening Toolkit](#). In addition, all PSI's should follow the specific public health guidance below and review their programming and services to keep everyone, especially those a great risk from COVID-19 infection, as safe as possible. **Ottawa Public Health guidance is subject to change as new information is received.**

<b>Screening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All individuals, including staff, students and campus visitors, must self-screen daily upon accessing in-person any PSI programs, classes, services or campus facilities. Entry should be denied to any individual who a) has any of the <a href="#">symptoms</a> of COVID-19, b) has come in close contact with a person who has COVID-19 or another person</li> </ul>
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	<p>with symptoms of COVID-19 during the past 14 days, or c) has travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screening for attendees, staff and volunteers can be done using Ontario’s <a href="#">self-assessment tool</a> or <a href="#">Ottawa Public Health’s screening tool</a>.</li> <li>• Anyone with <a href="#">symptoms</a> of COVID-19 should stay home and seek medical support and testing as needed. Any close contacts of this person should self-isolate as well until the tests results return from their close contact. If close contacts develop any symptoms as well, they should seek testing.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Post signage</a> on the entry doors to prompt visitors, students and staff to self-assess every day.</li> <li>• Consider posting OPH’s posters relevant to health and safety best practices: <a href="#">Stop Before Entering – Self-screening Poster</a>, <a href="#">Practice Physical Distancing</a>, <a href="#">Steps to Prevent the Spread of Germs</a>, <a href="#">Safely Putting on and Taking off Masks</a>, <a href="#">Mask Required</a>, <a href="#">Mandatory Mask Infographic</a>.</li> <li>• As per the Public Health Institution Readiness Requirements for International Students in Ontario, post-secondary institutions are required to ensure that both international and domestic students who are in quarantine as a result of having entered Canada and within two weeks prior to the start of their studies, are tested for the COVID-19 virus at least once during their quarantine period. For more information, see the relevant information below related to international students.</li> <li>• Information related to local COVID-19 testing and assessment centers can be accessed through <a href="#">OPH’s website</a>.</li> <li>• Community testing is locally administered by health system partners and not Ottawa Public Health (OPH). Any requests for campus testing should be directed towards: <a href="mailto:CHRIC@TOH.ca">CHRIC@TOH.ca</a></li> </ul>
<b>Mask Bylaw</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wearing a mask in indoor public spaces is now a mandatory requirement under the City of Ottawa’s Temporary <a href="#">By-law 2020-186</a> to limit the spread of COVID-19. There are <a href="#">exemptions</a> including, but not limited to, children under two years of age and individuals with medical conditions and disabilities.</li> <li>• Effective <b>October 3, 2020</b>, the Province updated the <a href="#">Ontario Regulation 364/20</a> that mandates the use of masks in all public indoor settings across Ontario which includes workplaces.</li> <li>• Ontario Regulation 364/20 further extends this requirement to all indoor areas including those not accessible to the public, where a two-meter distance from others cannot be maintained at all times.</li> <li>• “Enclosed Public Space” means indoor public spaces of businesses and organizations, accessed by the public.</li> <li>• Masks include: a cloth mask, medical mask, disposable mask or other face coverings (e.g. bandana or scarf) that securely cover the nose, mouth and chin without gaping.</li> <li>• Proof is not required from any individuals who are exempt from wearing a mask. If an individual refuses to wear a mask and is not exempted, the operator/organization can contact the City (via 311) for assistance.</li> <li>• Wearing a mask is not an alternative to physical distancing. Every effort should be made to keep a 2-metre distance even when wearing a mask.</li> <li>• Post clear and visible signage at all entrances to the premises and throughout the venue indicating mandatory mask use.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notify students of the mandatory mask requirements prior to and upon their arrival on campus.</li> <li>• City of Ottawa Bylaw will be on site ensuring compliance with the temporary mask bylaw and provincial gathering limits.</li> <li>• Consider having masks available to hand out or for purchase by students who do not bring their own mask.</li> <li>• Educate and train employees and students on the proper use of masks including how to safely put on, take off and store a mask when not in use.</li> <li>• For additional information, FAQs, resources, posters, visit <a href="https://ottawapublichealth.ca">OttawaPublicHealth.ca</a>.</li> <li>• Develop a PSI mask policy for employees.</li> <li>• It is highly recommended that all PSI's develop and implement their own organization-based policies/practices to promote mask wearing at all times both indoors and outdoors.</li> <li>• OPH strongly recommends masks be worn at all times while in classrooms/labs and campus settings (indoors and outdoors) where physical distancing cannot be maintained.</li> <li>• OPH's website has information related to <a href="#">masks</a> including how to make/procure a mask.</li> </ul>
<b>Isolation Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Ministry released v10.0 (Oct 1, 2020) of <i>COVID-19 Quick Reference Public Health Guidance on Testing and Clearance</i>. The guidance now establishes <b>10 days</b> as the self-isolation period from when symptoms start(or the test date if the individual never had symptoms) as long as the individuals is without fever (without the use of fever-reducing medications) and their symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours.</li> <li>• In most cases the required self-isolation period for anyone testing positive with COVID-19 will be 10 days (with some exceptions such as immunocompromised individuals or individuals with severe illness requiring hospitalization requiring longer).</li> <li>• <b>Please note, the incubation period for COVID-19 remains 14 days. Any close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases must self-isolate for 14 days.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Outbreak and Case Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An outbreak in a PSI is defined as two or more lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases in students and/or staff (or other visitors) with an epidemiological link in the post-secondary institution community, or on-site facilities, where at least one case could have reasonably acquired their infection.</li> <li>• Under the Health Protection and Promotion Act (HPPA), OPH will automatically receive notification of all positive cases with an Ottawa address and will initiate robust case management and contact tracing within the PSI community as needed. Quick partnership and engagement from the university will ensure rapid case and contact management can occur.</li> <li>• In collaboration with OPH, ensure there is a plan in place to support case management and any needed outbreak response in the PSI community. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identifying contact people within the PSI and OPH who can be engaged in the event of a positive case.</li> <li>○ In collaboration with OPH, identify a reporting process to flag increased absenteeism, symptomatic students, observed noncompliance to public health orders or positive cases within the PSI community.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In collaboration with OPH, develop a communication plan for publicly communicating outbreaks of COVID-19 as needed.</li> <li>○ Ensure mechanisms are in place so the PSI can provide the names and contact information of individuals from the PSI/general public that may have come into contact with any positive COVID-19 cases (e.g. class list, residence list).</li> <li>○ <b>When interacting with OPH, please do not send any student/staff personal or personal health information to OPH via e-mail.</b> This information needs to be shared between organizations in a secure manner (ex. by phone).</li> <li>● <b>In some cases (ex out of region/province students), the students/staff may be aware of their positive COVID test results prior to OPH.</b> In these situations, PSI's are encouraged to communicate any disclosures they receive from students/staff to their assigned OPH Public Health Nurse. When reporting any positive campus cases, please also include: 1) if the students/staff resides or works in a campus residence (include name of residence), and 2) what faculty/program the student/staff is associated.</li> <li>● Upon investigation of any positive COVID-19 cases in residences, OPH may conduct a site visit, to further asses infection prevention and control practices if needed.</li> <li>● <b>Please see Appendix A - Processes for Communicating Positive COVID-19 Cases in PSI's for more direction.</b></li> <li>● OPH will work with the PSI to determine epidemiological links (e.g., cases in the same class, same lab, same residence); the existence and scope of the outbreak; which cohorts are high risk contacts requiring isolation; and when the outbreak can be declared over. Given the size of most PSI's, an outbreak would typically be declared in a specific cohort (e.g. class, residence, or social venue) unless there is evidence of widespread transmission on campus.</li> <li>● In the event of outbreak, OPH will engage with the Champlain COVID Response Committee (CCRC) to seek out on site testing options as needed.</li> <li>● In the event of an outbreak, OPH will engage with the PSI to determine if any cohort or facility closures are required and will also support re-opening in the event of a PSI closure.</li> <li>● In the event of a positive COVID cases on campus, communications may not need to be sent broadly to the entire residence involved or campus populations.</li> <li>● All communications issued related to a positive case, should be done in partnership between OPH and the PSI community. Communication needs will be assessed on a case by case basis related to what is needed in order to prevent further transmission (i.e who needs to know). OPH asks that no communications be issued to the broader PSI community without confirmation from OPH.</li> <li>● All PSI's should encourage staff, students and visitors to download and use the <a href="#">COVID Alert App</a> to support contact tracing within the campus community.</li> </ul>
<b>International Students</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All international arrivals (as well as domestic students who have just returned from international travel), must have a plan to <u>quarantine for 14 days</u> when they arrive in Canada.</li> <li>● Ensure pre-arrival requirements are communicated to internationals students and their co-arriving immediate family members in advance of travel to Canada.</li> <li>● Private quarantine locations must meet the requirements set out under <a href="#">federal 14 Day Quarantine Requirements</a>, with arrangements made prior to arrival and assessed to be acceptable by the Government of Canada at the time and point of entry.</li> </ul>

- The Ontario Government requires that both international and domestic students who are in quarantine (as a result of having entered Canada within two weeks prior to the start of their studies) be tested for the COVID-19 at least once prior to or at the end of their quarantine period. This requirement is over and above the normal protocols for individuals who show symptoms.
  - COVID-19 testing should be done, as per the Ministry recommendation, immediately following the student's required 14-day quarantine period. OPH supports this ministry recommendation however recognizes this may result in students needing to wait for their results and thus extending their isolation beyond the 14 days.
  - Should institutions wish to provide onsite testing for students on day 12 or 13 in order to avoid extending the isolation period longer than necessary, this is acceptable. Regardless of the test result, students must complete the full 14-day quarantine period.
  - Institutions that have the capacity to collect testing swabs on site, and wherein the student does not break their quarantine period, can continue to test after at least five full days have passed since the student's return to Canada. Regardless of the test result, students must complete the full 14-day quarantine period.
  - When testing is off-site, safe and direct transportation will be needed.
  - If any test results are positive, the quarantine will need to be extended and OPH will be engaged.
- PSI offered individual accommodation options for the 14-day quarantine period must be consistent with the *Quarantine Act* and ensure there is no risk of transmission between the quarantined student and the general public.
- Any PSI provided quarantine options/packages for students must include access to food, social supports and virtual resources including mental health supports as needed.
- Provide appropriate transportation of international students and their co-arriving immediate family members to a 14-day quarantine location, consistent with Government of Canada recommendations (i.e. wearing a mask for onward domestic travel; travelling directly to place of quarantine). Keep windows down for essential community trips via taxi or rideshares." And sit as far away from the driver as possible and wear a mask.
- Preference would be private transportation, but public transportation is allowable as per OPH and federal website but should enforce with no unnecessary stops. Please refer to the link: <https://www.ottawapublichealth.ca/en/public-health-topics/self-isolation-instructions-for-novel-coronavirus-covid-19.aspx#Returning-from-travel-WITHOUT-symptoms->
- Ensure international students are aware of the consequences of violating mandatory quarantine and testing requirements.
- Identify social supports and virtual resources including mental health supports for international students who choose to quarantine off site.
- Confirm that students are symptom-free and have a suitable isolation plan ensuring they will not be staying with vulnerable populations or living in a communal or group setting and will have access to the necessities of life upon arrival.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop mechanisms to ensure daily follow up with international students to ensure compliance to the quarantine order, assess student’s needs, and enable daily monitoring of student’s symptoms and wellbeing. These mechanisms need to address international students living off campus as well.</li> <li>• Ensure protocols are in place in the event that a student develops symptoms of COVID-19 or needs medical attention.</li> <li>• While in quarantine, ensure students limit contact with other members of their household and that they have no contact with anyone outside their place of quarantine.</li> <li>• Students who develop symptoms should be referred for COVID testing using safer transit options as outlined above.</li> <li>• Ensure there is a PSI protocol in place for notifying OPH of any compliance issues with the 14-day mandatory quarantine period as well as any cases of COVID-19 infection resulting during the 14-day quarantine period.</li> <li>• Ensure consideration and mechanisms are in place to provide all students with anti-racisms supports and prevent COVID-19 related stigma.</li> <li>• Ensure students and their family members have access to local policies and supports including Telehealth (1-866-797-0000), and OPH resources including <a href="http://OttawaPublicHealth.ca">OttawaPublicHealth.ca</a> , and the OPH Information Centre (613-580-6744 or toll-free at 1-866-426-8885 or <a href="mailto:healthsante@ottawa.ca">healthsante@ottawa.ca</a>). OPH’s phone lines are answered during business hours, 7 days a week.</li> <li>• Advise students that under the <a href="#">Health Protection and Promotion Act</a>, Ottawa Public Health will automatically be notified and engaged in the event of any student or family member testing positive for COVID-19, or in the event of non-compliance to the federal quarantine and testing requirements.</li> <li>• Provide support as needed for students and any immediate family members after they complete their 14-day quarantine period.</li> </ul>
<b>Facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only allow one point of entry and a separate point of exit, especially if there will be overlap between people entering and exiting. However, for big buildings that may have a large number of attendees, the risk of crowding may need to be mitigated by exercising greater control of entrance and exit processes (e.g., dismiss one row at a time); and/or using more than one entrance and exit.</li> <li>• Hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol content must be available at facility entrances and exits and available in in every room (as applicable).</li> <li>• All visitors should be asked to clean their hands upon entry to and exit of facilities and classrooms.</li> <li>• Mark directional flows of people through buildings and areas to maintain distancing and to avoid movement against the flow of people.</li> <li>• Mark seating to ensure physical distancing between individuals who are not members of the same household.</li> <li>• Manage access to washrooms in a way that promotes physical distancing and cleaning and disinfection. Complete routinely checks to ensure washrooms are well stocked with liquid soap and paper towels, and that warm running water is available. In washrooms with multiple sinks, consider blocking access to every second sink to ensure physical distancing.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to PHO’s Environmental Cleaning factsheet <a href="#">for guidance on environmental cleaning</a>. Cleaning guidance can also be found on OPH’s website for <a href="#">Environmental Cleaning Guidance</a>.</li> <li>• Garbage bins should be lined with plastic bags.</li> <li>• Block off spaces (if appropriate) and have visual markings on the ground, where students, employees and or visitors may be sitting or standing.</li> <li>• Ensure other groups or businesses who rent, or access PSI facilities also abide by this guidance and other Ontario requirements.</li> </ul>
<p><b>On campus</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anyone who accesses PSI’s (work, education, essential services, residences) should complete <a href="#">daily screening</a> prior to accessing any facility.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Physical distancing</a> of 2 metres must be maintained at all times, between people who are not from the same household.</li> <li>• If multiple classes and or labs are held on a single day, the start and end times must allow those who attend a class/ lab to exit safely, avoiding contact with those arriving for the next class/lab. Use signage and markings to maintain one-way flow of traffic and to discourage gatherings in high-traffic areas. Time is needed to clean and disinfect common surfaces between classes/labs.</li> <li>• Do not hand out or share items that cannot be cleaned and disinfected before and after each use (e.g., books, handouts, IT equipment).</li> <li>• Consider establishing caps on attendance for any in person campus events. Ensure the provincial indoor (10 individuals) and outdoor gathering limits (25 individuals) are not exceeded at any time. Encourage smaller events and maintain contact lists of attendees whenever possible.</li> <li>• Indoor and outdoor events or gatherings cannot be merged together (ex. gathering of 35 people, with 25 people outdoors and 10 people indoors is not permissible).</li> <li>• The new limits, do not apply to events or gatherings held in staffed businesses and facilities such as restaurants, cinemas, banquet halls, gyms and places of worship as these sites must already follow specific public health and safety guidelines to minimize risk and limit the spread of COVID-19.</li> <li>• Consult <a href="#">OPH’s COVID-19 Guidance for Special Events</a> for further guidance.</li> <li>• All staff and volunteers are required to wear a mask at all times while in publicly accessible spaces on campus and in non-public spaces when physical distancing cannot be maintained.</li> <li>• Campus libraries may open if circulating materials that are returned or accessed within the library are disinfected or quarantined for 7 days prior to being re-circulated.</li> <li>• Ensure hand hygiene and proper cough and sneeze etiquette while on campus. Avoid touching face with unwashed hands. Post signage to reinforce this.</li> <li>• Staff, students and volunteers should be given information and training about appropriate physical distancing, processes, and hygiene practices.</li> <li>• To support public health contact tracing efforts in the event that an attendee at on campus tests positive, PSI’s should keep up to date contact information for individuals who attend their on-site classes, programs and services. <b>Please see Appendix A - Processes for Communicating Positive COVID-19 Cases in PSI’s for more direction.</b></li> <li>• Ottawa Public Health states that the risk of serious illness from COVID-19 increases progressively with age, particularly beyond 50 to 60 years. In addition to increasing</li> </ul>

	<p>age, people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions (cardiovascular, high blood pressure, diabetes, chronic lung, chronic liver, cancer, immunocompromise) or severe obesity are at higher risk for severe illness. Every individual needs to consider their personal risk factors when making decisions about going out.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote <a href="#">COVIDWise</a> messaging whenever possible through all available PSI, student body and local influencer channels known.</li> <li>• The City of Ottawa Bylaw will be taking a zero tolerance and enforcement approach for any on and off campus violations of the mandatory mask bylaw, or provincial COVID-19 orders such as gathering limits.</li> <li>• Encourage and supports students to develop <a href="#">a self-isolation plan</a> in the event they are exposed to COVID-19.</li> <li>• Day camps and seasonal programming may operate on campus and must adhere to Ministry Guidance and <a href="#">OPH's COVID-19 Guidance for Day Camps</a>.</li> </ul>
<b>In Residences</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement virtual orientations, training and social events whenever possible.</li> <li>• Provide guidance to students on how to comply with current public health requirements.</li> <li>• Remind students to wear a mask at all times in all common residence spaces.</li> <li>• Advise students that under the <a href="#">Health Protection and Promotion Act</a>, Ottawa Public Health will automatically be notified and engaged in the event of any student or member of the public testing positive for COVID-19.</li> <li>• Seek further guidance from <a href="#">OPH's Guidance for Multi-Unit Dwellings</a> and the <a href="#">Province of Ontario Guidance for Congregate Care Settings</a>.</li> <li>• Ensure visual reminders are in place related to physical distancing, respiratory etiquette, self-assessing daily and mask use.</li> <li>• Ensure documentation is maintained for all residents and visitors to the residence including the date/time and their related contact information.</li> <li>• Minimize visitors accessing the residences.</li> <li>• Ensure the physical environment and high touch surfaces are regularly cleaned and disinfected at least twice daily and more as needed.</li> <li>• Common areas may be open as long as mechanisms are in place to encourage physical distancing at that shared items are cleaned and disinfected frequently.</li> <li>• Contact OPH if increased illness is noted and or a student reports testing positive for COVID-19.</li> </ul>
<b>Higher Risk Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PSI's should review all activities that occur on campus to determine if they increase the risk of transmitting COVID-19 amongst students, staff and visitors.</li> <li>• Any activity or practice that increases the risk of COVID-19 through contact (e.g., touching surfaces or objects) or droplet transmission (e.g., sneezing, coughing, singing, shouting) should be discontinued or altered to prevent the risk. The following section provides guidance on some common higher risk activities that may occur in PSI's.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sports, Recreation and Fitness Centers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the total numbers permitted in any recreational or sport facility or activity allow all participants to maintain a distance of at least two meters from every other person at all times during the activity.</li> </ul>

- Team sports may only be practiced or played if they do not allow for physical contact or if they have been modified to avoid physical contact between the players.
- Organized team sports must be organized into leagues that contain no more than 50 players and teams cannot play against teams outside of their league.
- Any equipment shared must be cleaned and disinfected between each use.
- Activities that require the use of fixed structures that cannot be cleaned and disinfected between each use or at the end of play are not allowed.
- Visit OPH's [Guidance for Return to Play Sports, Recreation and Fitness](#) for more information.

**Special Events and Social Activities:**

- The permissibility of and operational requirements for special events are contingent on Provincial Emergency Orders. Public events and large social gatherings remain a high-risk activity and many activities are highly restricted or prohibited in Ontario.
- Consult OPH's COVID-19 [Guidance for Special Events](#) for further information.
- Social activities such as communal lunches or dinners are not permitted at this time.

**On campus Dining and Food Services:**

- Refer to the [OPH COVID-19 Guidelines for Reopening your Food Establishment](#) for further guidance.
- Meal services options need to be multiple and staggered to reduce the number of people in dining area at one time.
- Encourage diners to eat outside (weather permitting) or take their meals to other areas.
- Ensure proper signage to encourage physical distancing, manage flow of directions and to limit people in high traffic areas.
- Ensure all dining areas are configured so that diners seated at different tables are separated by a distance of at least 2 meters or some other impermeable barrier.
- Ensure a maximum of 6 diners per table. OPH recommends four 4-6 diners max per table to limit the number of close contacts.
- The total number of patrons permitted to be indoors in the establishment must be limited to the number that can maintain a physical distance of at least two meters from every other person in the establishment, **and in any event cannot exceed 100 patrons.**
- Remove buffets and self-serve locations.
- Ensure protocols are in place for cleaning and disinfecting the space regularly and in between uses.
- Maintain contact logs to capture the name, date, and contact information for all visitors to the site.

**Singing & Playing of Brass and Wind Instruments:**

- Although permitted in Stage 3, singing in a choir and playing brass and wind instruments are higher risk activities for COVID-19 transmission. There must be Plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier between performers and the audience/congregation.
- Performers should be spaced a minimum of 2 metres apart, but ideally more, and face away from each other if possible.
- Performers should be separated from each other by Plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier unless the singers are within the same social circle.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microphones and amplification should be used if possible, rather than projecting the voice.</li> <li>• The number of singers should be limited to further decrease the risk.</li> </ul> <p><b>Artistic Events and Theatrical Performances</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilities that host artistic event, theatrical performances or other performances may open if they comply with gathering limits and <a href="#">provincial guidance for performing arts</a>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Places of Worship:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religious events and or celebrations are permitted but must follow provincial guidance and the <a href="#">OPH COVID-19 Guidance for Places of Worship</a>.</li> </ul>
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**This guidance is subject to change as new information is received.** It is important to recognize that the COVID-19 situation is evolving very quickly. Please visit [OttawaPublicHealth.ca/Coronavirus](https://OttawaPublicHealth.ca/Coronavirus) for the most up to date information.

**Additional Links:**

- [Public Health Agency of Canada Guidance for Post-Secondary Institutions](#)
- [COVID Alert Mobile App](#)
- [Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): International Students in Canada](#)
- [Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Who can travel to Canada – citizens, permanent residents, foreign nationals and refugees](#)
- [Government of Canada COVID-19: A Guide for International Students](#)
- [COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms](#)

**Appendix A:**

**Processes for Communicating Positive COVID-19 Cases in Post Secondary Institutions (PSIs)**

**Positive case reported to OPH by Lab**

- Ottawa Public Health (OPH) contacts case directly and will initiate an investigation. OPH conducts contact and case management as per the Health Protection and Promotion Act (HPPA).
- If case/contacts identified reside in other health unit areas or provinces, OPH provides info to the relevant public health agency.
- OPH staff will contact the involved PSI (via PSI contact sheet) if risk to other students exists or if needed for contact notification purpose. Typically contact lists are then provided by the PSI to OPH for follow up (ex. daily residence tracking logs, class lists).
- The PSI leads (typically health services) will then be asked to assist OPH as needed with case investigation follow up. OPH will then provide specific instructions and directions related to support needed.
- If case/contacts reside in residence, OPH’s Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Congregate Living Team is also engaged. They would then coordinate a site visit (if needed) with the responsible university group lead and would work with the PSI health services team to:
  - provide recommendations for IPAC measures
  - initiate contact identification and develop contact tracing recommendations with the PSI health team
  - provide contact identification instructions and if needed request a list of contacts

- Depending on the case, OPH will assess the need for any wider communications and will engage the PSI administration and identified communication leads as needed.
- Any mass communication should be done in close partnership between OPH and the involved PSI's communication teams on a case by case basis (related to what is needed in order to prevent further transmission). It is important to avoid the sharing of identifying personal health information in any communications issued and to consider needlessly raising anxiety within the community if little risk exists.

### **Positive case reported to the PSI or specific case consultations required**

- If a PSI receives a report of a positive result from the individual involved:
  - Advise the individual that they should be self-isolating and that they should ask their close contacts (roommate, family, partner) to self-isolate while waiting for further instruction from OPH (this is the instruction they should have gotten when they were tested).
  - Advise the individual that OPH will be in contact with them ASAP to discuss next steps. They can also be referred to OPH's COVID information line at **613-580-6744** for more guidance and support.
- In some cases (ex out of region/province students), the students/staff may be aware of their positive COVID test results prior to OPH. In these situations, PSI's are encouraged to communicate any disclosures they receive from students/staff to their assigned OPH Public Health Nurse.
  - When reporting any positive campus cases, please also include: 1) if the student/staff resides or works in a campus residence (include name of residence), and 2) what faculty/program the student/staff is associated.
- All PSI's can also communicate positive case information, noted increased absenteeism, concerns etc... to their assigned Public Health Nurse.
- PSI's should not initiate contact with the case or identified contacts, this will be addressed by OPH. Note the sharing of student personal health information amongst faculty, PSI staff and other students can constitute a breach of the involved student's personal health information.
- Upon confirmation of the positive result, OPH will contact the case directly and will initiate an investigation. OPH will conduct contact and case management as per above (upon receipt of a positive lab results).

### **Positive case/contact reported to OPH by other Health Unit/Agency (ex. QC)**

- Upon notification by another health unit or agency of a local case, OPH will initiate an investigation and conduct contact and case management as per the process above (upon receipt of a positive lab result).
- If the case/contacts reside in residence, OPH's Infection Prevention and Control Team will be engaged.

### **Additional Information:**

- Individuals who are tested due to symptoms or because they have been in contact with a case should be self-isolating while awaiting test results. Close contacts of individuals who have been tested due to symptoms should also be asked to self-isolate by the individual who went for testing. Therefore, these individuals should be in self-isolation, awaiting the call from OPH.
- Non-healthcare staff, faculty, students and contacts should all be prepared to communicate their contacts to OPH when asked to help with an investigation but should not be disclosing second-hand

health information to other students or staff. Wider communication to students or staff about a case should include the communications teams at OPH and the PSI.

- Assisting with case and contact management (by providing information to OPH when requested) is a legal requirement for all individuals under the Health Protection and Promotion Act (HPPA). When an individual refuses to disclose contacts or to self-isolate, OPH can issue a Section 22 Order, in order to protect the public. OPH only does this in rare, exceptional circumstances after barriers to cooperation have been explored and we have tried to work with the person who is COVID-19 positive.