



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: March 2, 2021

TO: All persons residing or present in the area served by the Thunder Bay District Health Unit who:

- a) Are a confirmed case or a 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) Are a parent, or person with responsibilities of a parent, of a person under 16 years of age in a), b), c) or d) who resides or is present in Thunder Bay District Health Unit.

I, Dr. Janet DeMille, Medical Officer of Health for the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, ORDER YOU TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

1. Isolate yourself immediately in accordance with all instructions provided by Thunder Bay District Health Unit. This includes remaining in your home (in a private room if sharing with roommates) or isolation facility. Do not go outside, unless on to a private balcony or enclosed yard where you can avoid encounters with others. You must not have any visitors into your home except as permitted by Thunder Bay District Health Unit.
2. For persons in category a), b) and c) above, remain in isolation until the expiry of the 10-day isolation period of communicability (infectiousness) that begins on the day on which you first show symptoms, are tested, or are diagnosed with COVID-19, whichever is earliest.
3. For persons in category d) above, remain in isolation, even when not displaying any symptoms, until expiry of the 14-day isolation period that begins on the day you were last in close contact with a person identified in a) above, unless otherwise instructed by Thunder Bay District Health Unit. The following also apply:
 - *If tested*, and you receive a positive result, you are then subject to the Order as a person described in category a) above; see 2 above for directions.
 - *If tested*, and you receive a negative test result, you must still complete the remaining 14-day period of isolation.
 - *If you develop symptoms and do not get tested*, you are then considered a probable case and are subject to the order as a person described in category a) above.

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4. For persons in category e) above, you are to ensure that the child in a), b), c) or d) above, for whom you have responsibilities as a parent, follows the directions in this Order which apply to them.
 5. 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 Thunder Bay District Health Unit or any other staff of a healthcare facility at which you may seek or receive treatment.
 6. Inform the Thunder Bay District Health Unit or the staff at an isolation facility if you require help or any 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. Call the TBDHU COVID-19 Information Line at (807) 625-5900 or Toll-Free at 1-888-294-6630.
 7. Provide the Thunder Bay District Health Unit with the names and contact information of individuals that you came into close contact with during the relevant dates and all other information required for appropriate case and contact management, immediately upon request.
 8. During the periods described in 2, 3, and 4 above, remain reachable for monitoring by the Thunder Bay District Health Unit and/or other public health staff.
 9. Follow any further instructions provided by Thunder Bay District Health Unit pertaining to COVID-19 and the terms and conditions of this Order.
 10. Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening (for example, difficulty breathing) by calling 911 and report your COVID-19-related diagnosis, exposure and/or symptoms.
 11. The requirements of this Order are subject to necessary modifications for persons or a class of persons, such as:
 - a) A person or class of persons who, in the opinion of Thunder Bay District Health Unit, is asymptomatic and is required to provide an essential service, using mandated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), for the limited purpose of providing that essential service;
 - b) A person or class of person whose isolation, in the opinion of Thunder Bay District 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 Medical Officer of Health or designate, require modifications or this Order.

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*. 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*, and subsequently under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*, as a result of the pandemic.

2. COVID-19 is present in Thunder Bay District Health Unit and therefore poses a risk to the health of the residents of Thunder Bay District Health Unit through community transmission. The COVID-19 virus is spread from an infected person to an uninfected person by direct contact or from a close encounter where respiratory secretions from the infected person are transmitted to the uninfected person.
3. The COVID-19 period of communicability or infectiousness is understood to be up to 10 days for most people.
4. The COVID-19 incubation period (the period between exposure to an infection and appearance of first symptoms) can be up to 14 days.
5. The number of cases and deaths continues to rise in the Thunder Bay District Health Unit.
6. Of particular significance is recent transmission across Ontario 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.
7. To contain the spread of COVID-19, individuals experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or who are infected with the COVID-19 virus regardless of whether they have symptoms or not, as well as anyone they might have been in close contact with when they were infectious, are required to isolate themselves from other people and remain in isolation until they are no longer infectious or potentially infectious. This isolation is necessary to decrease the risk of spreading their infection to others.

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

1. A communicable disease, COVID-19 exists, or may exist or that there is an immediate risk of an outbreak of a communicable disease in the health unit served by me;
2. This communicable disease presents a risk to the health of persons in the health unit served by me; and
3. That 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 delivery of this Order to each and every member of the 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 Thunder Bay District Health Unit. Therefore, notice shall be provided through the public media and the internet via posting at <https://www.tbdhu.com/>.

The following definitions apply to this Order:

Close contact means any person who had high-risk exposure to a confirmed or probable case during their period of communicability (infectious period). A close contact can also be called a high-risk contact.

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

Isolation Facility means any location or facility where an individual may be spending their isolation period and where they are being supported in doing so.

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, (Health Boards Secretariat, 151 Bloor Street West, 9th Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2T5), requesting a hearing within 15 days after service of this Order. *In the context of the COVID-19 Outbreak*, all requests for appeals, reviews, submissions, materials and inquiries must be sent by email to hsarb@ontario.ca or faxed to the Health Services Appeal and Review 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 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 sections 100 and 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 (for a person) or \$25,000 (for a corporation) for every day or part of each day on which the offence occurs or continues.



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