

199 Larch Street
Suite 1002
Sudbury ON P3E 5P9
Tel (705) 564-6699
Fax (705) 564-3099
Toll Free 1-800-265-1222

199 rue Larch
Salle 1002
Sudbury ON P3E 5P9
Tél (705) 564-6699
Télééc (705) 564-3099
Sans frais 1-800-265-1222

November 30, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
MCCSS Transfer Payment Recipients

FROM: Sandra Russell, Director - North Region
Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

RE: **Enhanced Source Protection Measures and Active Screening
Reminder**

I am writing to inform you that, with the support and advice of the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, MCCSS is requiring additional source control measures for staff and visitors of MCCSS funded congregate living settings. In addition, the Ministry is expanding the active screening requirements for anyone entering a congregate living site.

The following enhanced source control measures must be implemented within 5 business days:

- All staff must wear both a surgical/procedure mask AND face shield while working within the congregate care setting.
- All indoor visitors, regardless of designation (essential, non-essential and designated) must wear a surgical/procedure mask. Where a physical distance of 2 meters or 6 feet cannot be maintained, visitors are advised to wear a surgical/procedure mask AND face shield. Outdoor visitors are only required to use a face covering (e.g., non-medical/cloth mask).

Please refer to the **Operational Guidelines for COVID-19 Universal Source Control Measures** document for details regarding the above enhanced source control measures.

All agencies will be receiving an initial 48-hour supply of face shields and surgical/ procedure masks to support implementation of this requirement. Additional surgical/procedure masks, face shields and other PPE supply can be requested using the [Critical Supplies and Equipment \(CSE\) survey portal](#).

In addition to existing screening requirements, agency screening must be enhanced where the following question must be asked to all individuals seeking to enter the setting:

1. Are you aware of the recommendations and restrictions in this community regarding gathering size, hand and respiratory hygiene, and the use of face coverings and masks?
 - a. Are you following these recommendations and restrictions regularly outside this setting you are seeking to enter?

Agency screening must also be enhanced for staff with the following new questions:

1. Do you understand that you are expected to properly don your personal protective equipment and wear it at all times in this setting with the exception of when you are eating?
2. Do you acknowledge that at any time your PPE is removed you must maintain a distance of 2 meters or 6 feet from others?
Please remember that interacting with colleagues outside of work without face coverings and social distancing raises the risks of COVID-19 transmission.

For a list of all COVID-19 symptoms and [access additional screening tools](#) please refer to the [Government of Ontario COVID-19 Information Website](#).

Staff, volunteers or visitors who notice ANY COVID-19 symptoms, even if experiencing mild symptoms, must stay home, avoid going to work or visiting a congregate setting and interacting with others for a minimum of 24 hours. Prompt COVID-19 testing should be pursued.

As we continue to navigate the outbreak, the practices outlined above are integral to maintaining a safe work and living environment for those who enter and/or live-in congregate living settings. Thank you for your continued professionalism and help in reducing the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.

If you have any questions, please contact your MCCSS Program Supervisor.

Sincerely,



Sandra Russell
Director, North Region