

**CLASS ORDER**

**Kingston, Frontenac, and Lennox & Addington Public Health**

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**Made pursuant to section 22 (5.01) of the *Ontario Health Protection and Promotion Act, 1990***

**DATE: December 10, 2020**

**TO: All owners and operators providing Community and Home Care Services in Kingston, Frontenac, and Lennox & Addington (KFL&A)**

**WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario declared a public health emergency as a result of the 2019 Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, pursuant to the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, 1990*;

**AND WHEREAS** the World Health Organization has determined COVID-19 to be a highly contagious disease that presents a risk to human health and communities due to its rapid communicability;

**AND WHEREAS** a number of individuals in Kingston, Frontenac, and Lennox & Addington have been infected with COVID-19 since its discovery and the extent of the virus still present in these areas is currently unknown;

**AND WHEREAS** under section 22 (5.01) of the *Ontario Health Protection and Promotion Act*, a medical officer of health may make an order requiring a person or a class of persons to take or to refrain from taking such actions required to isolate, test, or attend for medical care if the medical officer of health is of the opinion, upon reasonable and probable grounds, that an outbreak of a communicable disease exists or may exist, or if there is a risk of an outbreak of a communicable disease in the health unit that presents a risk to the health of persons in the health unit, and that the order is required to decrease or eliminate the health risks, and the person or class of persons to whom the order is directed may be at risk;

**AND WHEREAS** the KFL&A Public Health Medical Officer of Health has reasonable and probable grounds to believe that one or more persons residing in the KFL&A community is infected or has been exposed to infection, or has potentially been infected or exposed to infection, with the COVID-19 virus.

**I, Dr. Kieran Moore, Medical Officer of Health for KFL&A Public Health, therefore, make the following order, which is effective immediately:**

1. Owners and operators of Community and Home Care Services in Kingston, Frontenac, and Lennox & Addington (KFL&A) shall ensure that all staff providing services in community and home care settings are provided education on best practices for infection prevention and control, including active screening for symptoms consistent with COVID-19, exclusion from work when unwell, hand hygiene, and use of personal protective equipment. Employers will keep a record of the education provided.
2. Owners and operators of Community and Home Care Services in KFL&A will conduct regular audits to ensure these practices are followed and provide education to ensure any deficiencies are corrected. These audits will be documented, and a record kept of each audit.

3. Owners and operators of Community and Home Care Services in KFL&A shall recommend that clients wear a face covering and ensure that families of clients wear a face covering while employees are in the home. A medical grade mask is preferable to a cloth face covering.
4. Owners and operators of Community and Home Care services in KFL&A shall ensure that individuals who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or are confirmed cases of COVID-19 are provided a medical grade mask that must be worn while employees are in the home.
5. Owners and operators of Community and Home Care Services in KFL&A shall ensure that all staff providing services requiring close personal contact and/or personal care in community and home care settings provide a negative COVID-19 test result to their employers, regardless of symptoms, every two weeks while the region is under the Green-Prevent or Yellow-Protect, zone of the provincial COVID-19 response framework, and weekly while the region is under the Orange-Restrict, Red-Control, or Grey-Lockdown zones. Employers will track this through verbal attestations from their employees every two weeks and keep a record.
6. Records of the education sessions, audits, and attestations will be implemented and monitored by the Employers for submission to KFL&A Public Health at the agency's discretion.
7. This Order may be amended, revised, or modified as determined by the Medical Officer of Health or by KFL&A Public Health.

### **REASONS FOR THE ORDER**

1. An outbreak of this infection exists, may exist, or may potentially arise as a consequence of this infection or exposure to infection;
2. The KFL&A area has a large number of staff working in community and home care settings with vulnerable individuals;
3. An outbreak within the KFL&A area would present a significant risk to the health of persons in the area;
4. To preserve and protect the capacity of our health care system to respond and provide care for those who need it; and
5. To contain further spread of COVID-19 within and outside of the KFL&A area and to decrease and eliminate any further health risks to those residing in or present in the KFL&A community.

**I am of the opinion that** the delivery of notice to each member of the class identified herein is likely to cause a delay that may significantly increase the risk of further infection or exposure to infection to the health of any person within the KFL&A community, so notice shall be provided through the public media, emails, and a posting on the KFL&A Public Health website: [www.kflaph.ca](http://www.kflaph.ca).

### **The following definitions apply to this Order:**

“vulnerable person” includes a person who has an underlying medical condition, a compromised immune system, who is 65 years of age or older, or is reliant upon a homeless shelter or other congregate living setting.

## **NOTICE**

You are entitled to a hearing on this matter before the Health Services Appeal and Review Board and may apply for such a hearing upon request to KFL&A Public Health and to the Health Services Appeal and Review Board, at:

151 Bloor Street West, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M5S 1S4

This Order takes effect immediately upon delivery and shall continue in effect until either rescinded by the Medical Officer of Health or a decision of the Health Services Appeal and Review Board rescinds or amends the Order.

Failure to comply with this Order is an offence for which you may be liable, on conviction, to a monetary fine.

## **SUMMARY**

1. COVID-19 is a disease caused by coronavirus discovered in 2019. The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic due to its rapid spread to 212 countries of the world as at the date of this Order.
2. Ongoing studies conducted by research institutions throughout the world concur that the risk of serious disease and death are higher in the elderly population and among people experiencing certain comorbidities.
3. Due to its highly contagious nature, the virus can spread rapidly among people living, working, or existing in close contact with each other.
4. The virus primarily spreads through contact with respiratory droplets from another person but can also spread through touching surfaces or objects that have the virus on them.

---

Dr Kieran Moore, MD, CCFP (EM), FCFP, MPH, DTM&H, FRCPC  
Medical Officer of Health  
KFL&A Public Health Unit  
c/o KFL&A Public Health  
221 Portsmouth Avenue  
Kingston, ON K7M 1V5

All inquiries should be directed to KFL&A Public Health

(613) 549-1232 or (800) 267-7875

[kflaph@kflapublichealth.ca](mailto:kflaph@kflapublichealth.ca)

---

### **Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health**

[www.kflaph.ca](http://www.kflaph.ca)

Main Office 221 Portsmouth Avenue  
Kingston, Ontario K7M 1V5  
613-549-1232 | 1-800-267-7875  
Fax: 613-549-7896

Branch Offices Cloyne 613-336-8989 Fax: 613-336-0522  
Napanee 613-354-3357 Fax: 613-409-6267  
Sharbot Lake 613-279-2151 Fax: 613-279-3997