



**PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER
PROVINCIAL ORDER
December 14, 2020**

(Under Section 38 and Subsection 45(2) of *The Public Health Act, 1994* and section 25.2(2) of *The Disease Control Regulations*)

WHEREAS:

- A. I, Dr. Saqib Shahab, an official with the Ministry of Health and the Chief Medical Health Officer for the Province of Saskatchewan, have been authorized by the Minister of Health to act under section 45 of *The Public Health Act, 1994*;
- B. The transmission of the infectious agent SARS-CoV-2, which has caused cases and outbreaks of a serious communicable disease known as COVID-19 among the population of the Province of Saskatchewan, is a serious public health threat, as defined in *The Public Health Act, 1994*;
- C. A person infected with SARS-CoV-2 can infect other people with whom the infected person is in contact;
- D. The gathering of people in close contact with one another can promote the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and increase the number of people who develop COVID-19;
- E. COVID-19 is a category I communicable disease;
- F. It is necessary to (a) reduce the probability for transmission of SARS-CoV-2, and (b) reduce the exposure to SARS-CoV-2, to decrease or eliminate the risk to health presented by COVID-19;
- G. I consider the following measures necessary to decrease or eliminate the risk to health presented by COVID-19;
- H. Effective December 17, 2020 at 12:01 a.m., I rescind my November 26, 2020 Provincial Order and by virtue of the foregoing and under section 38 and subsection 45(2) of *The Public Health Act, 1994* and section 25.2(2) of *The Disease Control Regulations*:

This Order applies to all Individuals and businesses within the Province of Saskatchewan and City of Lloydminster

1. I hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

Gathering Sizes and Restrictions

- (a) Indoor private gatherings held in private dwellings or out buildings associated with private dwellings are restricted to those who ordinarily reside in the private dwelling, except in the following circumstances:



- (i) A person who resides on their own may choose one other household with which to connect for the duration of this Order. That person may attend the other household's private dwelling provided no more than 4 persons ordinarily reside in that private dwelling. The person and the members of the household may not change for the duration of the order. For clarity, a person who resides on their own may not visit or host multiple households and households may not visit or host multiple persons who reside on their own. At all, times there can be no more than 5 persons in the gathering.
 - (ii) Individuals who are the parents or guardians of children under the age of 18 years who co-parent the children or who have custodial or access rights pursuant to a court order, a custody and access agreement or other form of agreement are permitted to continue with co-parenting and to continue to follow the terms of such orders or agreements; and
 - (iii) Caregivers, support personnel, and tradespersons are permitted and are not included when determining the number of people in a private dwelling.
- (b) Subject to 1(u) all indoor public gatherings are prohibited except in the following circumstances where 2 meter distancing between people can be maintained:
- (i) Settings where people are distributed into multiple rooms or buildings, and workplaces; and
 - (ii) Are a critical public service or an allowable business service.

In the event that a critical public service or allowable business service is unable to maintain 2 meter distancing, other measures must be in place to prevent the transmission of COVID-19. This may include, but is not limited to, self-monitoring of personal health and supervision by Infection Prevention and Control Officers or Occupational Health and Safety.

This section does not apply to critical public services, allowable business services, events and activities to the extent that the guidelines applicable to those critical public services, allowable business services, events or activities found in the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan, as amended from time to time, on the Government of Saskatchewan website (Saskatchewan.ca) explicitly permits or requires an alternative gathering size. In such a case, the gathering size explicitly permitted or required shall not be exceeded and specified physical distancing shall be maintained.

- (c) Public and private outdoor gatherings are permitted up to 10 persons. Persons in attendance must ensure that physical distancing of at least 2 meters between households is maintained.

This section does not apply to events and activities to the extent that the guidelines applicable in the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan, as amended from time to time, on the Government of Saskatchewan website (Saskatchewan.ca) explicitly permits or requires an alternative gathering size. In such a case, the

gathering size explicitly permitted or required shall not be exceeded, and specified physical distancing shall be maintained.

- (d) Unless otherwise required by another section in this order, members of a household are exempt from physical distance requirements from members of their own household.

Self-isolation

- (e) All persons that have been identified by a Medical Health Officer as having novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) shall immediately go into mandatory self-isolation until such time as a Medical Health Officer determines that they no longer pose a public health threat.
- (f) All persons that have been identified by a Medical Health Officer as a close contact of a person or persons with COVID-19 shall go into mandatory self-isolation for 14 days from the date of last having been exposed to COVID-19;
- (g) All symptomatic persons that have been directed to receive a test for COVID-19 or are awaiting test results shall go into mandatory self-isolation until such time as a Medical Health Officer determines that they no longer pose a public health threat;
- (h) All persons that have travelled internationally shall go into mandatory self-isolation for 14 days from date of arrival back into Canada, except for the following persons:
 - (i) if such persons are supervised by Infection Prevention and Control Officers or Occupational Health and Safety in the workplace:
 - i. specific health care workers;
 - ii. workers who provide emergency health care services;
 - iii. workers who are essential to maintain essential services;
 - iv. workers who maintain supply chain; or
 - v. rail, airline and transport crews.
 - (ii) Individuals who have been granted a limited release from quarantine on compassionate grounds by the Government of Canada and only in accordance with the terms of the limited release.
- (i) All persons that become symptomatic while on mandatory self-isolation shall call Healthline 811 and follow Healthline directives; and
- (j) All persons who are household members or contacts of a person with COVID-19 shall immediately go into mandatory self-isolation for 14 days and call Healthline 811 if they become symptomatic and follow Healthline directives.

Child Care Facilities

- (k) All child care facilities that are co-located with or within a long term care or personal care home shall be segregated with a private entrance and separate space so that there are no shared common areas with the long term care home or personal care home, as the case may be, and no interaction between childcare children and residents of the home. The child care facility may continue to operate subject to any restrictions placed on all child care facilities.

Critical Public Services and Allowable Business Services

- (l) All businesses must operate in accordance with any restrictions found on the critical public services and allowable business services list. All businesses permitted to operate shall do so in accordance with (b) and in a manner that prevents transmission of COVID-19. The list of critical public services and allowable business services is found on the Government of Saskatchewan website: Saskatchewan.ca.
- (m) All businesses that are not a critical public service or an allowable business service are permitted to provide online sales.
- (n) Critical public services, allowable business services, events and activities that the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan has a specific guideline for must be operated in accordance with the applicable guideline found in the Re-Open Saskatchewan Plan, as amended from time to time, posted on the Government of Saskatchewan website: Saskatchewan.ca.
- (o) The use of hookahs or other types of water pipes in indoor public places is prohibited.

Closures and Restrictions

(p) Commencing at 12:01 am December 19, 2020:

- (i) all casinos, bingo halls, and gaming centers shall close;
- (ii) Owners or operators of personal service facilities identified as an allowable business on the critical public services and allowable business list shall not exceed the lesser of the following:
 - i. 50 percent of the occupant load as determined in accordance with the *National Fire Code 2015* Division B, Clause 2.7.1.3.(1)(a), or
 - ii. ensure that 2 meters of physical distance is maintained between non-household members at all times.

For clarity, owners and staff members are not included in the occupant load calculation.

(q) For the purposes of this subsection, the following definitions apply:

“*large retail store*” is defined as a retail store that occupies 1,858 square meters (20,000 square feet) of floor space or more in a building, or portion of a building.

Commencing at 12:01 am December 25, 2020, the capacity within all retail establishments is limited as follows:

- (i) Owners or operators shall ensure that the number of individuals located within a large retail store at any one time shall not exceed the lesser of the following:
 - i. 25 percent of the occupant load as determined in accordance with the National Fire Code 2015 Division B, Clause 2.7.1.3.(1)(a), or
- (ii) Owners or operators shall ensure that the number of individuals located within a retail store that is not a large retail store at any one time shall not exceed the lesser of the following:
 - i. 50 percent of the occupant load as determined in accordance with the *National Fire Code 2015* Division B, Clause 2.7.1.3.(1)(a), or
 - ii. ensure that 2 meters of physical distance is maintained between non-household members at all times.

For clarity, owners and staff members are not included in the occupant load calculation.

Visitors to Special-Care Homes

- (r) Visitors to special-care homes designated pursuant to *The Provincial Health Authority Act*, and personal care homes licensed pursuant to *The Personal Care Homes Act* shall be restricted to those visiting for compassionate reasons.

Food, Beverages and Liquor

- (s) Liquor licensed transportation licensed pursuant to subsection 19(1)(c) of *The Alcohol Control Regulations, 2016* and limousines as defined in *The Operating Authority Regulations, 2011* must cease operation.
- (t) Food or beverages are not permitted to be served at any event, as defined herein, or at a casino, bingo hall, live theater, performing arts venue, arena, or sports facility, except in accordance with the following:
 - (i) For the purposes of this subsection:
 - i. “banquet hall” means a building or a portion of a building, which is rented by individuals or groups to accommodate private functions including, but not limited to, banquets, weddings, anniversaries and other similar celebrations, and such use may or may not include: 1) kitchen facilities for the preparation or catering of food; 2) the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption, only during scheduled events and not open to the general public; and 3) outdoor gardens or reception facilities.
 - ii. “event” refers to anything which gathers people together whether on a one-time, regular or irregular basis, including, but not limited

to: a gathering in banquet hall or other place, a party, ceremony or celebration of any type, reception, wedding, funeral, celebration of life, musical, theatrical or dance entertainment or performance, live band performance, disc jockey performance, comedic act, art show, magic show, fashion show, book signing, reading, recitation, display, movie, film, meeting, conference, lecture, talk, educational presentation (except in a school or post-secondary educational institution), auction, fund raising benefit, contest, competition, quiz, game, rally, festival, presentation, demonstration, athletic, sporting or other physical activity, exhibition, market or fair, including a trade fair, agricultural fair, seasonal fair or episodic indoor event that has as its primary purpose the sale of merchandise or services e.g. Christmas craft markets, home shows, antique fairs and the like and for certainty includes a gathering preceding or following another event, but does not include a gathering in a private dwelling or out buildings associated with the private dwelling or movies and films shown in movie theatres.

- iii. “food and beverage” does not include food or beverage served as part of a faith-based ritual.
 - iv. “public eating establishment” means a public eating establishment licensed pursuant to section 5 of *The Food Safety Regulations*, but does not include a banquet hall.
 - v. “tavern” means any premises on which the primary business to be conducted is the sale of beverage alcohol for consumption on the premises, but does not include a banquet hall.
- (ii) Food or beverage may be served at an event held at a public eating establishment.
- (iii) Food or beverage may be served at an event held at a tavern.
- (iv) Food or beverage may be served, casino, bingo hall, live theater, performing arts venue, arena, or sports facility if there is in an area designated for the consumption of food or beverage that is separate and apart from an event or any other activity taking place in the facility, and the food or beverage is only consumed in the designated area and according to the Food, Beverage and Liquor Serving Premises public health order.

Sports and Other Activities

- (u) Sports or activities where one or more individuals compete against one or more other individuals (“team sports”, such as hockey, football, soccer, and basketball) are not permitted. This includes competitions and games for all amateur and recreational leagues. Group training for individual athletic events (such as dance, figure skating, diving, and speed skating) is not permitted. This includes competitions, and rehearsals. The owner or operator of a business or facility must not use the business or facility for this purpose, and must not rent, reserve or allow -5- the business or facility to be used for this purpose. Notwithstanding the foregoing, individuals 18 years of age or under may continue conditioning and skills training in groups not exceeding 8 individuals so long as 3 meter distancing between all individuals is maintained.

2. I hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

- (a) For the purposes of section 2 of this Order, “Licensee” refers to:
 - (i) operator of a special-care home designated pursuant to *The Provincial Health Authority Act*;
 - (ii) the licensee of a personal care home licensed pursuant to *The Personal Care Homes Act*;
 - (iii) an individual who, or corporation that, under a contract or subcontract with an operator of a special care-home or a licensee of a personal care home, provides or arranges for the provision of health care services or support services within the facility.
- (b) For the purposes of section 2 of this Order, “Facility” refers to:
 - (i) A special-care home designated pursuant to *The Provincial Health Authority Act*;
 - (ii) A personal care home licensed pursuant to *The Personal Care Homes Act*.
- (c) For the purposes of section 2 of this Order, “Staff Member” refers to
 - (i) any individual who is employed by, or provides services under a contract with, the Licensee of a Facility; and
 - (ii) any volunteer or student that assists in the provision of services within the Facility.
- (d) Licensees must restrict the movement of Staff Members among Facilities by ensuring that each Staff Member works in only one Facility.
- (e) To assist a Licensee in carrying out their obligation in section 2(d), a Staff Member who is employed to provide services within more than one Facility must as soon as reasonably possible disclose that fact to their supervisor at each Facility where they provide services.
- (f) A Licensee may seek approval from a medical health officer to permit a Staff Member to work in more than one Facility, if they are unable to ensure adequate staffing levels in a Facility as a result of complying with this Order.
- (g) This section does not apply to dietitians, medical laboratory technologists, medical laboratory assistants, nurse practitioners, home care workers, occupational therapists, public health nurses, public health officers (inspectors), paramedics, pharmacists, physicians, physiotherapists, resident physicians,

- speech language pathologists, staff who provide podiatry type care, inter-facility transport staff, delivery persons, trades people, regular and biochemical waste removal people, biomedical engineers, election administrators, visitors or any other person or class of person who are exempted by the medical health officer.
- (h) Section 2(d) and 2(e) is not intended to restrict Staff Members from employment that is not in a Facility, such as home care, group homes, or other employment outside a Facility, with the exception of employment at a hospital.
 - (i) Staff Members are not permitted to work at a Facility if they also work at a hospital.

3. I hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

- (a) For the purposes of section 3 of this Order, “Facility” means the same as defined in section 2 above but is amended to include:
 - (i) All facilities designated pursuant to *The Provincial Health Authority Act* operated by the Provincial Health Authority as defined in *The Provincial Health Authority Act*;
 - (ii) Hospital as designated pursuant to *The Provincial Health Authority Act* operated by an affiliate prescribed in *The Provincial Health Authority Administration Regulations*;
 - (iii) The following facilities operated by the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency continued pursuant to *The Cancer Agency Act*:
 - i. Saskatoon Cancer Centre;
 - ii. Allan Blair Cancer Centre; and
 - iii. The Hematology Clinic.
- (b) For the purposes of section 3 of this Order, “Licensee” means the same as defined in section 2 above but is amended to include:
 - (i) The Provincial Health Authority as defined in *The Provincial Health Authority Act*;
 - (ii) The Saskatchewan Cancer Agency continued pursuant to *The Cancer Agency Act*.
- (c) For the purposes of Section 3 of this Order, “Staff Member” refers to:
 - (i) any individual who is employed by, or provides services under a contract with, the Licensee of a Facility; and
 - (ii) any volunteer or student that assists in the provision of services within the Facility.
- (d) For the purposes of Section 3 of this Order, “Individual” means the same as Staff Member but also includes all individuals entering the Facility, except individuals entering for the purposes of receiving care.
- (e) Health screening shall occur as follows:
 - (i) Staff Members shall undergo health screening prior to or upon entry to the Facility, which must include a temperature check. Any Staff Members who display or disclose signs or symptoms of COVID-19 shall be denied entry to the Facility.
 - (ii) Individuals who are not Staff Members shall undergo health screening, which must include a temperature check prior to or upon entry to the Facility.
- (f) Individuals providing direct patient care or working in patient care areas must wear a surgical/procedure mask continuously, at all times and in all areas of

the Facility, if they are either involved in direct patient contact or cannot maintain adequate physical distancing (2 meters) from patients and other Individuals. Individuals who do not work in patient care areas or do not have direct patient contact are only required to mask if entry into patient care areas is required and physical distancing (2 meters) cannot be maintained.

This order remains in effect until 12:01am on January 15th, 2021, or until, in the opinion of the Chief Medical Health Officer, there is no longer a public health threat, whichever shall first occur.

DATED at Regina, Saskatchewan, on the 14th of December, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Saqib Shahab', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Saqib Shahab FRCPC
Government of Saskatchewan
Chief Medical Health Officer