

# CLASS ORDER

## Made pursuant to Section 22(5.0.1) of the Health Protection and Promotion Act

### **TO: All persons residing in or present in The Regional Municipality of York who:**

- (a) are identified as a person diagnosed with COVID-19 or tested positive for COVID-19;
- (b) have the signs and symptoms of COVID-19, have been tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting the results of their test;
- (c) otherwise have reasonable grounds to believe they have symptoms of COVID-19; or
- (d) are a Close Contact of a person identified in (a), or (c).

I, Dr. Karim Kurji, Medical Officer of Health for The Regional Municipality of York, order you to take the following actions, effective **12:01 a.m. on March 4, 2021**:

1. Isolate yourself without delay in accordance with instructions provided by York Region Public Health (YRPH). This includes remaining in your home or isolation facility and staying away from others. You must not have any visitors into your home except as permitted or directed by YRPH or for urgent medical care.
2. Remain in isolation as directed by YRPH in accordance with the current Ministry of Health guidelines, including: [http://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019\\_testing\\_clearing\\_cases\\_guidance.pdf](http://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_testing_clearing_cases_guidance.pdf)
  - a) For persons diagnosed with COVID-19 or otherwise have reasonable grounds to believe they have COVID-19, the isolation period is 10 days from the date of symptom onset or as directed by YRPH.
  - b) For persons having the signs and symptoms of COVID-19, the isolation period is 10 days from the date of symptom onset unless a negative test result is received, or as directed by YRPH. For persons having been tested for COVID-19 and are waiting test results, they must remain isolated until test results are received, or as directed by YRPH.
  - c) For persons testing positive for COVID-19 with a Variant of Concern (VOC) or if YRPH has reasonable grounds to believe they have a COVID-19 VOC, they are required to isolate, as directed by York Region Public Health.
  - d) For Close Contacts of persons diagnosed with COVID-19 or Close Contacts of persons having reasonable grounds to believe they have COVID-19, the self-isolation period is 14 days from the date of last exposure or as directed by YRPH.
3. During the self-isolation period, conduct yourself in such a manner as not to expose another person to infection or potential infection from COVID-19 by following infection control and self-isolation instructions on the YRPH website, located at [COVID-19 Self-Isolation Advice](#) or as given to you by YRPH or staff at a health facility to which you may seek or receive treatment.
4. Follow any further instructions provided by YRPH pertaining to COVID-19 and the terms and conditions of this Order. Should you require a clinical assessment, contact by telephone, either your primary care provider's office or Telehealth Ontario at 1- 866-797-0000. If you need additional assessment, your primary care provider or Telehealth Ontario will direct you to in-person care options.
5. Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening (e.g. difficulty breathing) by calling 911 and telling them of your COVID-19 related diagnosis or symptoms.
6. Co-operate fully with YRPH staff for the remainder of your COVID-19 isolation and all times thereafter, as required by YRPH for case follow up. This includes participating in phone calls or other methods of communication, as directed by public health to confirm isolation and for ongoing monitoring of your health. Inform YRPH immediately if your symptoms worsen.
7. Provide YRPH with information regarding persons that you have come in contact with during your period of communicability for COVID-19, such as the contact's name and contact information, as required by YRPH.
8. The requirements of this Order are subject to necessary modifications for the following persons or class of persons:
  - a) a person, or class of person, who in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health is asymptomatic and provides an essential service, for the limited purpose of providing that essential service;
  - b) a person receiving essential medical services or treatments, whether or not related to COVID-19; or
  - c) where a person's isolation, in the opinion of YRPH, would not be in the public interest.

## THE REASONS for this ORDER are that:

1. COVID-19 has been designated as communicable under Ontario Regulation 135/18 as amended. COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization.
2. COVID-19 is present in York Region and therefore poses a risk to the health of the residents of York Region through community transmission. The COVID-19 virus is spread from an infected person to a close contact primarily by direct contact or when respiratory secretions from the infected person enter the eyes, nose or mouth of another person.
3. A VOC is a mutation in the SARS-CoV-2 genome for which there is conclusive or strong evidence of an impact on public health and clinical practice, including transmission. There is evidence of presence and community transmission in York Region.
4. To contain the spread of COVID-19, individuals experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or who are infected with COVID-19, as well as their close contacts, are required to isolate themselves from other people until they are no longer infectious or potentially infectious. Isolation ensures that these people will not spread their infection to others

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

- a. a communicable disease exists or may exist or there is an immediate risk of an outbreak of a communicable disease in the health unit served by me;
- b. the communicable disease presents a risk to the health of persons in the health unit served by me; and
- c. 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 the delivery of notice of this Order to each and every member of the class is likely to cause a delay that could significantly increase the risk to the health of any person residing in the health unit, so notice shall be provided through the public media and the internet via posting at [york.ca/COVID19](http://york.ca/COVID19).**

The following definitions apply to this Order:

“Close Contact” means you are caring for or living in the same household with someone who has COVID-19 or have otherwise been identified as a close contact by York Region Public Health.

“York Region Public Health” means the Medical Officer of Health or York Region Public Health staff acting under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health

## NOTICE

**TAKE NOTICE THAT** each member of the class is entitled to a hearing by the Health Services Appeal and Review Board if the member has delivered to me and to the Health Services Appeal and Review Board, 151 Bloor Street West, 9th Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1S4, notice in writing, requesting a hearing within 15 days after publication of this Order or otherwise in accordance with applicable law.

At the time of this Order, all requests for appeals and reviews, submissions, materials, and inquiries must be sent to the Health Services Appeal and Review Board by e-mail to [hsarb@ontario.ca](mailto:hsarb@ontario.ca) or faxed at 416-327-8524. See: <http://www.hsarb.on.ca/> for current information.

**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 is an offence in accordance with section 100 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.



Dr. Karim Kurji  
Medical Officer of Health

This Order shall be posted on: [york.ca/COVID19](http://york.ca/COVID19)

Inquiries about this Order should be directed to York Region Public Health at: [yr.corporate.communications@york.ca](mailto:yr.corporate.communications@york.ca)