

Renfrew County and District Health Unit "Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, 1:35 p.m. May 13, 2021)

Province Extends Provincewide Stay-At-Home Order

Today, the Ontario Government announced that it is **extending the provincewide Stay-at-Home Order** (O.Reg. 265/21) **until at least June 2, 2021.** All public health and workplace safety measures under the <u>provincewide emergency brake</u> will also remain in effect.

"We must stay the course. Now is not the time to let our guard down. This is a critical time in our fight against COVID-19 as variants-of-concern continue to spread at a rapid rate," states Dr. Robert Cushman, Acting Medical Officer of Health.

The province stated that if we continue to follow all measures currently in place, that some outdoor recreational activities and amenities should be able to open for July and August.

Virtual learning will continue as the government prepares to administer the Pfizer vaccine to youth between the ages of 12 and 17, beginning the week May 31, 2021. This will help ensure the safest environment for students and staff to return to in-person learning when schools are deemed safe to open.

The impacts of these measures will continue to be evaluated over the coming weeks, with consideration being made to the reopening of outdoor recreational amenities on June 2, subject to current trends continuing. For full details on the latest announcement, visit: Ontario Extending Stay-at-Home Order Until June 2.

In addition to these new public health measures, it is imperative that everyone do their part to stay home if they are sick, avoid contact with people who are ill, practice physical distancing (2 metres), wear a mask/face covering when physical distancing cannot be maintained, wash their hands, use the COVID Alert App, and complete the COVID-19 self-assessment tool or COVID-19 school and childcare screening tool daily if they go to work, school or daycare, to monitor for symptoms and proper guidance.

For more information, visit RCDHU's website at https://www.rcdhu.com/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-2/ or call 613-732-3629 or 1-800-267-1097.