

March 27, 2020

VIA EMAIL

# To Employers in Sudbury and Districts:

Public Health Sudbury and Districts is working diligently with all levels of government and community partners to limit the impact of COVID-19 in our communities. The primary focus to this end is supporting the implementation of measures to prevent spread from person to person. Protecting the health of your workforce and capacity of the health system are two related priorities for which we are seeking your cooperation.

Despite increased communications and recommendations to limit proximity of workers, we have been informed of a number of complaints that this may not be happening to its full potential in all workplaces.

Public health units across northern Ontario have been discussing ways to support large employers and all are moving in a similar direction. Many large employers are moving toward remote or virtual work as the default where possible. Other employers such as mines have already moved to maintenanceonly mode as a measure to protect the health of their employees while maintaining integrity of their business operations.

We urge you to do all you can to implement effective measures to maintain social (physical) distancing for all employees such as remote or virtual work, staggering work shift, or, where appropriate, considering moving to maintenance level operations. Without proper social (physical) distancing, a single case of COVID-19 at one of our larger employers could result in a large number of secondary infections.

Public Health Sudbury and Districts has numerous recommendations for social (physical) distancing on our website which can be adapted for the workplace. A Public Health Inspector may follow up with you in the coming days to learn

#### Sudbury

1300 rue Paris Street Sudbury ON P3E 3A3 t: 705.522.9200 f: 705.522.5182

#### **Rainbow Centre**

10 rue Elm Street Unit / Unité 130 Sudbury ON P3C 5N3 t: 705.522.9200 f: 705.677.9611

## Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street Box / Boîte 58 St.-Charles ON POM 2W0 t: 705.222.9201 f: 705.867.0474

#### Espanola

800 rue Centre Street Unit / Unité 100 C Espanola ON P5E 1J3 t: 705.222.9202 f: 705.869.5583

# Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542 Box / Boîte 87 Mindemoya ON POP 1SO t: 705.370.9200 f: 705.377.5580

#### Chapleau

101 rue Pine Street E Box / Boîte 485 Chapleau ON POM 1KO t: 705.860.9200 f: 705.864.0820

### Toll-free / Sans frais

1.866.522.9200

phsd.ca







Employers within the Public Health Sudbury and District catchment area March 27, 2020
Page 2

more about the measures you are taking to protect employee health and prevent the spread of COVID-19. In addition, please contact Burgess Hawkins at <a href="mailto:hawkinsb@phsd.ca">hawkinsb@phsd.ca</a> or 705-522-9200 ext. 218 to discuss issues and potential options.

Thank you for your commitment to our communities' wellbeing.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

PS:lh