



Public Health
Santé publique
SUDBURY & DISTRICTS

March 11, 2021

To: Directors of Education for School Boards and Principals of private schools operating within the City of Greater Sudbury and districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin

Re: Letter of Instruction from the Medical Officer of Health on In-person Learning

Notice of correction (March 12, 2021): Instructions provided are pursuant to Schedule 6, section 2(2) of Ontario Regulation 82/20

I am writing to you as the persons responsible for schools in the City of Greater Sudbury and districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin. These instructions apply to schools in the areas noted above with the exception of schools in Chapleau, Foleyet and Gogama.

I would like to commend your efforts to maintain safe in-person learning for staff and students since schools reopened in our area in 2021. This includes the last number of weeks during which Greater Sudbury in particular, has seen rising rates of COVID-19, including the more transmissible variants of concern. The public health measures you have implemented have been critical to protect schools and permitted the opportunity for the in-person learning that is vitally important for students, families and our society as a whole.

In response to the COVID-19 risk in the Public Health Sudbury & Districts service area, the provincial government has announced that all communities will enter into Grey—Lockdown of the provincial COVID-19 response framework, effective March 12, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. The increase in cases and the increase in the more transmissible variant signals an increased risk of COVID being brought into the schools.

Instructions:

As Medical Officer of Health, I am issuing this Letter of Instruction to all Directors of Education for School Boards and all Principals of private schools operating within the City of Greater Sudbury and the districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin, effective Monday, March 15, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. These instructions apply to all schools with the exception of those in Chapleau,

Sudbury

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

Elm Place

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 1S0
t: 705.370.9200
f: 705.377.5580

Chapleau

34 rue Birch Street
Box / Boîte 485
Chapleau ON POM 1K0
t: 705.860.9200
f: 705.864.0820

toll-free / sans frais

1.866.522.9200

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Foley and Gogama. The instructions are provided pursuant to Schedule 6, section 2(2) of Ontario Regulation 82/20: Rules for Areas in Stage 1 made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020, S.O. 2020, c.17*:

- Suspend the provision of all in-person student learning and before and after school programs for all schools.

These instructions should not be interpreted to mean that the schools themselves should be closed. Educators and staff can attend school for the purposes of conducting virtual teaching and other activities as needed to support this and for managing school facilities, etc., in compliance with Ontario Regulation 82/20. In addition, in-person instruction to students with special education needs who cannot be accommodated through remote learning may be accommodated. For clarity, these instructions also do not apply to daycares aside from before and after school programs.

Public Health Sudbury & Districts is committed to supporting students, families and the school community through these challenging times. We look forward to continuing to work with our school partners.

Thank you for your ongoing work during the pandemic response.

Sincerely,



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