



Memorandum

To: All LCDS Employees, Families & Stakeholders
Date: April 28, 2022
From: EMT
Subject: COVID-19 Updates

Good afternoon all. We hope you and your families are doing well. We do have a few COVID-19 updates to share with you today.

Agency Enhanced Protocols

As mentioned in our previous memos, EMT reviewed the agency enhanced protocols today. The agency continues to have staff away due to COVID-19 illness and isolation requirements with numbers increasing daily. The agency also continues to have one location in a declared outbreak situation.

Agency Enhanced Protocols will be reviewed again by EMT on June 13, 2022, or sooner pending any updated direction or guidance from MCCSS and or Ministry of Health. The agency will continue with enhanced protocols as outlined below:

- **Community Participation:**
 - Community Participation employees are still currently needed in other areas of the agency to assist with staffing shortages due to COVID-19.
 - The planning process continues for a staged re-opening of Community Participation. Any updates will be shared as soon as they become available.
- **In-person Meetings:**
 - Of up to 5 people will continue, based on the capacity of the meeting space.
- **Administration Office/Location Manager Working Remotely:**
 - Administration office employees and location managers will be expected to continue with their work on-site two (2) days per week, with the continued option to increase working on-site to three (3) days per week.
 - We realize that there are positions that will need to work in the office/onsite more than two or three days per week to keep the day-to-day operations of organization flowing.
- **Surgical/Procedural Masks:**
 - **Must** continue to be worn in all agency congregate and non-congregate settings. More details provided below

- **Essential and Non-essential In-person Training:**
 - Will continue with attendance limits of up to ten (10) people, based on capacity limits (including the trainer), along with enhanced screening and PPE requirements in place.
- **All Non-essential Contractor Visits:**
 - Will continue as scheduled by the Property Manager and coordinated through the location manager.

Ministry of Health Continued Mask & Face Covering Requirements

As you may know, Dr. Kieran Moore (Chief Medical Officer of Health) announced On Friday April 22, 2022, issued an order to continue to require masking in certain settings (including congregate care settings that provide care and services to medically and socially vulnerable individuals). **The Order will be in effect from April 27, 2022, to June 11, 2022, unless otherwise extended or revoked.** Maintaining mask and face covering requirements will provide additional protection in these specific settings and environments where individuals who are, or may be, at increased risk of severe outcomes are in close contact for extended periods of time, such as congregate living settings and on public transportation. A link to the order can be found here -

https://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/orders/section_22_class_order_continued_mask_face_covering_requirements.pdf

Employee Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) 3x/ Week

- As a reminder the agency was required to implement **RAT testing three (3) times per week every Monday, Wednesday and Friday commencing on Monday, April 18, 2022.**
- Employees are required to test every Monday, Wednesday and Friday and post to the online portal OTR the same day they are completed.
- Positive test results **MUST** be reported to EMT, location manager (and on-call if after hours) and to scheduler immediately. EMT is required to report daily to Lambton Public Health on any agency positive test results.

Virtual Family Information Night

Just a reminder that we will be hosting our next virtual **Family Information Night tonight Thursday, April 28 at 7 PM via Microsoft Teams.** We will look to provide further COVID-19 updates, a touch-in the MCCSS long-term plan (Journey to Belonging: Choice & Inclusion) and a Q&A session. Here is the link to join - [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Thank you everyone. Be safe and well.

Sincerely,

EMT
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