

Ordering of measures to protect the health of the
population amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation

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WHEREAS the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a pandemic on 11 March 2020;

WHEREAS, under section 118 of the Public Health Act (chapter S-2.2), the Government may declare a public health emergency in all or part of the territory of Québec where a serious threat to the health of the population, whether real or imminent, requires the immediate application of certain measures provided for in section 123 of the Act to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS the pandemic constitutes a serious and real threat to the health of the population that requires the immediate application of certain measures provided for in section 123 of the Act;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020, the Government declared a public health emergency throughout Québec for a period of 10 days and took certain measures to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS the public health emergency was renewed until 29 March 2020 by Order in Council 222-2020 dated 20 March 2020, until 7 April 2020 by Order in Council 388-2020 dated 29 March 2020, until 16 April 2020 by Order in Council 418-2020 dated 7 April 2020, until 24 April 2020 by Order in Council 460-2020 dated 15 April 2020, until 29 April 2020 by Order in Council 478-2020 dated 22 April 2020, until 6 May 2020 by Order in Council 483-2020 dated 29 April 2020, until 13 May 2020 by Order in Council 501-2020 dated 6 May 2020, until 20 May 2020 by Order in Council 509-2020 dated 13 May 2020, until 27 May 2020 by Order in Council 531-2020 dated

20 May 2020, until 3 June 2020 by Order in Council 544-2020 dated 27 May 2020, until 10 June 2020 by Order in Council 572-2020 dated 3 June 2020, until 17 June 2020 by Order in Council 593-2020 dated 10 June 2020, until 23 June 2020 by Order in Council 630-2020 dated 17 June 2020 and until 30 June 2020 by Order in Council 667-2020 dated 23 June 2020;

WHEREAS the latter Order in Council provides that the measures provided for by Orders in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020, 222-2020 dated 20 March 2020, 223-2020 dated 24 March 2020, 460-2020 dated 15 April 2020, 496-2020 dated 29 April 2020, 500-2020 dated 1 May 2020, 505-2020 dated 6 May 2020, 539-2020 and 540-2020 dated 20 May 2020, 543-2020 dated 22 May 2020, 566-2020 dated 27 May 2020, 588-2020 dated 3 June 2020, 615-2020 dated 10 June 2020 and 651-2020 dated 17 June 2020, and by Ministerial Orders 2020-003 dated 14 March 2020, 2020-004 dated 15 March 2020, 2020-005 dated 17 March 2020, 2020-007 dated 21 March 2020, 2020-008 dated 22 March 2020, 2020-009 dated 23 March 2020, 2020-010 dated 27 March 2020, 2020-011 dated 28 March 2020, 2020-013 dated 1 April 2020, 2020-014 dated 2 April 2020, 2020-015 dated 4 April 2020, 2020-016 dated 7 April 2020, 2020-017 dated 8 April 2020, 2020-018 dated 9 April 2020, 2020-019 and 2020-020 dated 10 April 2020, 2020-021 dated 14 April 2020, 2020-022 dated 15 April 2020, 2020-023 dated 17 April 2020, 2020-025 dated 19 April 2020, 2020-026 dated 20 April 2020, 2020-027 dated 22 April 2020, 2020-028 dated 25 April 2020, 2020-029 dated 26 April 2020, 2020-030 dated 29 April 2020, 2020-031 dated 3 May 2020, 2020-032 dated 5 May 2020, 2020-033 dated 7 May 2020, 2020-034 dated 9 May 2020, 2020-035 dated 10 May 2020, 2020-037 dated 14 May 2020, 2020-038 dated 15 May 2020, 2020-039 dated 22 May 2020, 2020-041 dated 30 May 2020, 2020-042 dated 4 June 2020, 2020-043 dated 6 June 2020, 2020-044 dated 12 June 2020, 2020-045 dated 17 June 2020 and 2020-047 dated 19 June 2020, except to the extent that they were amended by those Orders in Council or Orders, continue to apply until 30 June 2020 or until the Government or the Minister of Health and Social Services modifies or terminates them;

WHEREAS Order in Council 222-2020 dated 20 March 2020, amended by Orders in Council 543-2020 dated 22 May 2020 and 615-2020 dated 10 June 2020, and Order in Council 615-2020 dated 10 June 2020, amended by Ministerial Order 2020-047 dated 19 June 2020, provides in particular that all interior or outdoor assemblies are prohibited, subject to certain exceptions;

WHEREAS Order in Council 223-2020 dated 24 March 2020 ordered in particular the suspension of all activity carried on in work environments, except with respect to work environments providing the priority services listed in the Schedule to the Order in Council;

WHEREAS the Schedule to the Order in Council was amended by Orders in Council 500-2020 dated 1 May 2020, 539-2020 dated 20 May 2020 and 566-2020 dated 27 May 2020, and by Ministerial Orders 2020-010 dated 27 March 2020, 2020-011 dated 28 March 2020, 2020-013 dated 1 April 2020, 2020-014 dated 2 April 2020, 2020-015 dated 4 April 2020, 2020-016 dated 7 April 2020, 2020-017 dated 8 April 2020, 2020-018 dated 9 April 2020, 2020-021 dated 14 April 2020, 2020-023 dated 17 April 2020, 2020-025 dated 19 April 2020 and 2020-027 dated 22 April 2020;

WHEREAS, by Orders in Council 500-2020 dated 1 May 2020, 505-2020 dated 6 May 2020, 530-2020 dated 19 May 2020, 539-2020 and 540-2020 dated 20 May 2020, 566-2020 dated 27 May 2020, 588-2020 dated 3 June 2020, 615-2020 dated 10 June 2020 and 651-2020 dated 17 June 2020, and by Ministerial Orders 2020-042 dated 4 June 2020, 2020-043 dated 6 June 2020, 2020-044 dated 12 June 2020, 2020-045 dated 17 June 2020 and 2020-047 dated 19 June 2020, the Government lifted the suspension applicable to certain activities carried on in work environments under Order in Council 223-2020 dated 24 March 2020;

WHEREAS Ministerial Order 2020-004 dated 15 March 2020, amended by Orders in Council 530-2020 dated 19 May 2020 and 566-2020 dated 27 May 2020, and by Ministerial Orders 2020-022 dated 15 April 2020, 2020-029 dated 26 April 2020, 2020-042 dated 4 June 2020, 2020-043 dated 6 June 2020 and 2020-045 dated 17 June 2020, suspended the activities in certain places, ordered that a hearing before a court of justice, administrative tribunal or other administrative body be held behind closed doors and restricted access by members of the public to the premises made available to such a court, tribunal or body;

WHEREAS, while the public health emergency is in effect, despite any provision to the contrary, the Government or the Minister of Health and Social Services, if the Minister has been so empowered, may, without delay and without further formality, take any of the measures provided for in subparagraphs 1 to 8 of the first paragraph of section 123 of the Act to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic allows for the easing of certain measures set in place to protect the health of the population, while maintaining some of the measures necessary to continue that protection;

WHEREAS various health measures are recommended by the public health authorities and every person, enterprise or body is responsible for taking the necessary steps to see the measures are respected;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of Health and Social Services:

THAT the first dash of the third paragraph of the operative part of Order in Council 222-2020 dated 20 March 2020, amended by Orders in Council 543-2020 dated 22 May 2020 and 615-2020 dated 10 June 2020, and the fourth and sixth paragraphs in the operative part of Order in Council 615-2020 dated 10 June 2020, amended by Ministerial Order 2020-047 dated 19 June 2020, be revoked;

THAT, subject to the special measures provided for in this Order in Council or in any Order in Council or Ministerial Order made subsequently, in any place, a person maintain, to the extent possible, a distance of two metres from any other person, except

(1) if the persons assembled are occupants of the same private residence or its equivalent;

(2) one person is receiving from another person a service or support;

(3) in a private residence or its equivalent, in a tourist home or in a principal residence establishment;

(4) if the persons are seated at the same table in a restaurant, bar or any other room used for the purposes of restaurant services or the consumption of alcoholic beverages;

(5) for children, if they are at a childcare centre, day care centre, home childcare service or day camp;

(6) for the staff members of a childcare centre or a day care centre and for the person providing home childcare services and, if applicable, the person's assistant, but only when interacting with the children under their care;

(7) for preschool, elementary or secondary level students in general education when they are receiving any service provided by a school service centre, school board or private educational institution;

THAT in a private residence or its equivalent, a tourist home or a principal residence establishment, including the grounds of such a residence, home or establishment, not more than 10 persons may be assembled, except if the persons are occupants of the same private residence or its equivalent or one person is receiving from another person a service or support;

THAT, in a restaurant, a food court in a shopping centre or food store, at casino or gaming house tables, in a bar or in any other room used for the purposes of restaurant services or the consumption of alcohol,

(1) the seating arrangement on the premises, including terraces, be such that a distance of two metres is maintained between tables, unless a physical barrier able to limit contagion separates the tables; and

(2) not more than 10 persons may be seated at the same table;

THAT, in every common area in a shopping centre, water park, amusement park or theme park, a distance of two metres be maintained between the persons present, except

(1) if the persons are occupants of the same private residence or its equivalent; or

(2) one person is receiving from another person a service or support;

THAT, in classrooms of university institutions, colleges and private college-level educational institutions, rooms where educational and instructional services in vocational training and adult general education are dispensed, courtrooms, movie theatres and rooms in which performing arts are presented, including venues where the arts are performed and broadcast, a minimum distance of 1.5 metres be maintained between the students or members of the public, when seated, unless

(1) the persons are occupants of the same private residence or its equivalent; or

(2) one person is receiving from another person a service or support;

That a maximum of 50 persons may

(1) be in attendance in a place of worship, courtroom, movie theatre or room in which performing arts are presented, including venues where the arts are performed and broadcast;

(2) attend an interior production or audio-video filming, interior recording of a performance or interior training session or amateur sports event; and

(3) gather in any hall rented to any person, establishment, enterprise or other body, including community halls;

THAT Order in Council 223-2020 dated 24 March 2020, amended by Orders in Council 500-2020 dated 1 May 2020, 505-2020 dated 6 May 2020, 530-2020 dated 19 May 2020, 539-2020 and 540-2020 dated 20 May 2020, 566-2020 dated 27 May 2020, 588-2020 dated 3 June 2020, 615-2020 dated 10 June 2020 and 651-2020 dated 17 June 2020, and by Ministerial Orders 2020-042 dated 4 June 2020, 2020-043 dated 6 June 2020, 2020-044 dated 12 June 2020, 2020-045 dated 17 June 2020 and 2020-047 dated 19 June 2020, including its Schedule, amended by Orders in Council 500-2020 dated 1 May 2020, 539-2020 dated 20 May 2020 and 566-2020 dated 27 May 2020, and by Ministerial Orders 2020-010 dated 27 March 2020, 2020-011 dated 28 March 2020, 2020-013 dated 1 April 2020, 2020-014 dated 2 April 2020, 2020-015 dated 4 April 2020, 2020-016 dated 7 April 2020, 2020-017 dated 8 April 2020, 2020-018 dated 9 April 2020, 2020-021 dated 14 April 2020, 2020-023 dated 17 April 2020, 2020-025 dated 19 April 2020 and 2020-027 dated 22 April 2020, be revoked;

THAT Ministerial Order 2020-004 dated 15 March 2020, amended by Orders in Council 530-2020 dated 19 May 2020 and 566-2020 dated 27 May 2020, and by Ministerial Orders 2020-022 dated 15 April 2020, 2020-029 dated 26 April 2020, 2020-042 dated 4 June 2020, 2020-043 dated 6 June 2020 and 2020-045 dated 17 June 2020, be amended by revoking the first, second, fourth and fifth paragraphs concerning the suspension of the activities in certain places, the holding of a hearing before a court of justice, administrative tribunal or other administrative body behind closed doors and the restriction on access by members of the public to the premises made available to such a court, tribunal or body;

THAT the third paragraph in the operative part of Ministerial Order 2020-005 dated 17 March 2020 be revoked;

THAT the following be suspended:

(1) the holding of any festival or other event of the same nature; and

(2) the operation of summer camps, except specialized camps for special needs persons;

THAT, when work may be carried out remotely, teleworking from a private residence or its equivalent be given preference;

THAT no direct physical contact during a combat sport be authorized;

THAT professional sports take place in the absence of the public;

THAT, in a restaurant, a food court in a shopping centre or food store, in a bar or in any other room used for the purposes of restaurant services or the consumption of alcoholic beverages,

(1) only persons seated at a table may be served; and

(2) the patrons cannot serve themselves directly from a buffet or have access to a self-serve counter for covers or food;

THAT, for the purposes of the fourth and fifteenth paragraph, a counter used for the consumption of food or alcohol be considered a table

THAT, in every tourist accommodation establishment,

(1) no common kitchen be made available to the guests in the establishment; and

(2) no dormitory may accommodate more than 10 persons;

THAT, in drive-in theatres, each person view the film or any other type of show from a vehicle;

THAT the operative part of Ministerial Order 2020-013 dated 1 April 2020, amended by Ministerial Orders 2020-031 dated 3 May 2020, 2020-034 dated 9 May 2020, 2020-038 dated 15 May 2020, 2020-041 dated 30 May 2020 and 2020-043 dated 6 June 2020, be further amended

(1) by revoking the second paragraph;

(2) in the seventh paragraph:

(a) by replacing paragraph 2 by the following:

"(2) persons who transport goods into those regions;"

(b) by replacing paragraph 5 by the following:

"(5) persons who work or practise their profession there;"

THAT the Minister of Health and Social Services be empowered to order any modification or clarification of the measures provided for in this Order in Council.