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**RECORD OF DECISION – CMOH Order 26-2020**

**Re: 2020 COVID-19 Response**

Whereas I, Dr. Deena Hinshaw, Chief Medical Officer of Health have initiated an investigation into the existence of COVID-19 within the Province of Alberta.

Whereas the investigation has confirmed that COVID-19 is present in Alberta.

Whereas under section 29(2)(b)(i) of the *Public Health Act*, I may take whatever steps I consider necessary to:

- (a) suppress COVID-19 in those who may have already been infected with COVID-19;
- (b) protect those who have not already been exposed to COVID-19;
- (c) break the chain of transmission and prevent spread of COVID-19; and
- (d) remove the source of infection.

Whereas I have previously ordered certain Albertans to:

- (i) implement practices to minimize the risk of transmission of infection among persons working at or attending certain locations;
- (ii) provide procedures for rapid response if a person develops symptoms of illness while working at or attending certain locations;
- (iii) ensure that persons working at or attending certain locations maintain high levels of sanitation and personal hygiene; and
- (iv) comply, to the extent possible, with any applicable guidance established by Alberta Health (which may be found at <https://www.alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx>).

Whereas I have advised, but have not ordered, Albertans to wear a mask as an additional precautionary measure, as masks are another way to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 in circumstances where physical distancing may not be possible.

Therefore, I am taking the following steps to protect Albertans from exposure to COVID-19 and to prevent the spread of COVID-19, by requiring Albertans to maintain physical distance in situations where there is no applicable public health guidance available:

1. Effective immediately, all persons in the Province of Alberta must comply with the following requirements.

- 2(1) Subject to sections 2(2) and 2(3) of this Order, every person attending an indoor or an outdoor location must maintain a minimum of 2 metres distance from every other person.
- (2) Persons attending an indoor or an outdoor location who are all members of the same household or cohort group are excepted from the requirements in section 2(1) of this Order.
- (3) A person does not contravene section 2(1) of this Order if the person acts in compliance with any guidance established by Alberta Health, regarding physical distancing as set out in an applicable guidance document (which may be found at <https://www.alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx>).
3. If the circumstances require it, this Order can be amended to add, remove or modify any step the Chief Medical Officer of Health considers necessary to take to address the presence of COVID-19 within Alberta.
4. Notwithstanding anything in this Order, the Chief Medical Officer of Health may exempt a person or a class of persons from the application of this Order.
5. This Order remains in effect until rescinded by the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

Signed on this 26 day of June, 2020.

  
Deena Hinshaw, MD  
Chief Medical Officer of Health