# Special Measures Order (Alert Level 3) (Newfoundland and Labrador except Avalon Peninsula)

## Made pursuant to Section 28 of the Public Health Protection and Promotion Act

March 12, 2021

TO: All individuals and businesses operating in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador except the Avalon Peninsula

#### WHEREAS:

- A. While a declaration of a public health emergency is in effect, the Chief Medical Officer of Health may do one or more of the special measures authorized under section 28 of the **Public Health Protection and Promotion Act** for the purpose of protecting the health of the population and preventing, remedying or mitigating the effects of the public health emergency;
- B. On March 18, 2020, the Minister of Health and Community Services, on the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, declared:
  - a. a public health emergency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;
  - b. the public health emergency is in effect for the entire province of Newfoundland and Labrador; and
  - c. the public health emergency is in effect for a period of 14 days effective immediately;
- C. The public health emergency has been extended for 14-day intervals and is currently still in effect;
- D. The Chief Medical Officer of Health, pursuant to subsection 28(2) of the Public Health Protection and Promotion Act, may provide notice in any manner that can reasonably be expected to give actual notice;
- E. The Chief Medical Officer of Health, pursuant to section 28 of the **Public Health Protection and Promotion Act**, made Special Measures Order (General Alert
  Level 4) (Newfoundland and Labrador except Avalon Peninsula) effective
  February 27, 2021;
- F. The Chief Medical Officer of Health believes that while special measures continue to be necessary for the purpose of protecting the health of the population and preventing, remedying or mitigating the effects of the public

health emergency, further modified restrictions are appropriate for all of Newfoundland and Labrador with the exception of the Avalon Peninsula; and

G. The Chief Medical Officer of Health believes, in accordance with section 13 of the Public Health Protection and Promotion Act, that the restrictions set out in this Special Measures Order (Alert Level 3) (Newfoundland and Labrador except Avalon Peninsula) are the least intrusive measures reasonably required in the circumstances to respond to the public health emergency,

Pursuant to section 28 of the Public Health Protection and Promotion Act, I, Dr. Janice Fitzgerald, Chief Medical Officer of Health HEREBY ORDER:

- 1. The following businesses are ordered to remain closed:
  - a. cinemas:
  - b. performance spaces; and
  - c. businesses that hold a license under the **Liquor Control Act** whose primary purpose is the consumption of beer, wine, or spirits.
- 2. Subject to Orders 3 and 4 herein, the following businesses may reopen:
  - a. gyms and fitness facilities, including yoga studios, swimming pools, tennis and squash facilities;
  - b. dance studios; and
  - c. arenas

provided that capacity is limited to no more than 20 people per room or ice surface, provided that physical distancing can be maintained.

- 3. All group, team sport and recreation activities where children, youth and/or adults gather in-person and where close proximity is required, are suspended. For greater certainty, this does not include individual activities such as walking tracks, gyms or lessons involving members of the same household.
- 4. Group arts and cultural activities that involve in-person gatherings where close proximity is required, are suspended. This includes bands, choirs, dance and music classes. Performances and lessons involving members of the same household are permitted.
- 5. Restaurants may open for in-person dining at 50 per cent capacity where physical distancing of 2 metres between patrons seated at adjacent tables may be maintained. Buffets are prohibited.
- **6.** Bingo halls are ordered to remain closed.

- 7. Wakes are prohibited. Limited visitation is permitted provided physical distancing may be maintained with individuals outside of the household.
- 8. Funerals, burials, weddings, religious and cultural ceremonies and services are limited to no more than 20 people provided physical distancing may be maintained. For all other gatherings, individuals within the same household are limited to gatherings with the same 10 close and consistent contacts of the household. For greater certainty, this limitation on informal gatherings does not apply to:
  - a. those who work or attend school outside of the home; and
  - b. custody and access orders and arrangements.
- 9. Retail stores, including those located in shopping malls, may open at reduced capacity provided physical distancing may be maintained.
- **10.** All individuals who are required to self-isolate or quarantine must:
  - a. remain on their own property:
  - stay in their own unit where they are living in a condominium or apartment.
     These individuals are not permitted in the common spaces in those buildings; and
  - c. not go for a drive, unless it is to receive medical attention.
- **11.** For the purpose of this Special Measures Order, the Avalon Peninsula means those cities, towns and communities east of Little Harbour.

#### IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:

- 1. This Order applies to all individuals and businesses operating within the province of Newfoundland and Labrador except the Avalon Peninsula.
- 2. This Special Measures Order (Alert Level 3) (Newfoundland and Labrador except Avalon Peninsula) is effective as of 12:01 am on March 13, 2021.
- 3. This Special Measures Order (Alert Level 3) (Newfoundland and Labrador except Avalon Peninsula) repeals and replaces the Special Measures Order (Alert Level 4) (Newfoundland and Labrador except Avalon Peninsula) effective February 27, 2021.
- All other Special Measures Orders and Exemption Orders remain in full force and effect.

### TAKE NOTICE THAT:

- 1. Failure to comply with this order may result in an application to the Supreme Court, in accordance with section 42 of the **Public Health Protection and Promotion Act** to enforce the relevant provisions of this Order.
- 2. A person who is subject to an order made by the Chief Medical Officer of Health may request that the Chief Medical Officer of Health reconsider the order by filing a written request for reconsideration within 7 days after the day on which the order is served on a person. A written request for review or reconsideration of this order shall include:
  - (i) the reasons for the request;
  - (ii) a summary of the facts relevant to the request;
  - (iii) whether the order should be revoked or how it should be varied; and
  - (iv) the contact information of the person making the request and shall be sent to the following address:

The Chief Medical Officer of Health Department of Health and Community Services PO Box 8700 St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

- 3. The Chief Medical Officer of Health shall review this Order no less than once every 5 days while the Order is in effect.
- 4. This Order remains in effect during any review or reconsideration.
- 5. Failure to comply with this Order is an offence for which you may be liable on summary conviction in accordance with section 56 of the **Public Health Protection and Promotion Act**.
- 6. For greater certainty, compliance with this Order is required in addition to and not in substitution for any requirement imposed by or under any applicable law.

Signed at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, this day of March, 2021.

Dr. Janice Fitzgerald

Chief Medical Officer of Health