Special Measures Order (Re-Opening – Travel – Step 2 – December 21, 2021 Update) (Self-Isolation Amendment)

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

January 22, 2022

TO: All individuals arriving in Newfoundland and Labrador

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:
 - (i) a public health emergency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - (ii) the public health emergency is in effect for the entire province of Newfoundland and Labrador; and
 - (iii) 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 (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) effective December 21, 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, reducing the self-isolation period for fully vaccinated travelers is appropriate;

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 (Re-opening – Travel – Step 2 – December 21, 2021 Update) (Self-Isolation Amendment) 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 Order No. 4(a) of the Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) is hereby repealed.
- 2. The Order No. 4(e) of the Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

Required to self-isolate upon arrival and only permitted to leave isolation after receiving negative results from two COVID-19 Rapid tests taken at least 24 hours apart and provided that the results of the remaining COVID-19 Rapid tests required in Order No. 4(d) continue to be negative; and

- 3. The Order No. 5 of the Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) is hereby repealed.
- **4.** The Order No. 6(e) of the Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) is hereby repealed.
- The Order No. 18 of the Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2
 December 21, 2021 Update) is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

Notwithstanding Order 17, children under 5 years of age who follow the vaccination status of fully vaccinated parents, guardians or caregivers are permitted to leave isolation after 24 hours have passed since arrival, provided their fully vaccinated parents, guardians or caregivers receive negative results for each of the first two COVID-19 Rapid tests taken at least 24 hours apart and the results of the remaining COVID-19 Rapid tests required in Order No. 4 continue to be negative but, for days 2 through 14 following their arrival in the province, are required to:

- a. Not attend school, subject to Order No. 19;
- b. avoid contact with medically vulnerable people;

- c. not attend daycare, camp, sporting events and large crowded settings; and
- d. not visit long term care facilities or personal care homes.
- 6. The Order No. 22 of the Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) is hereby repealed.
- 7. The Order No. 23 of the Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

Notwithstanding Order No. 4(e) above, a fully vaccinated rotational worker may avail of the following modified self-isolation requirements immediately upon arrival in the province and may continue to avail of modified self-isolation provided they receive negative results for each of the first two COVID-19 Rapid tests, as required under Order No. 4(d), taken at least 24 hours apart:

- a. Avoid contact with medically vulnerable people;
- b. Not attend sporting events and large crowded settings; and
- c. Not visit long term care facilities or personal care homes.
- **8.** The Order No. 24 of the Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) is hereby repealed.
- 9. The Order No. 32 of the Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

Notwithstanding Order No. 4(e) above, fully vaccinated, asymptomatic essential workers may avail of work-isolation immediately upon arrival in the province and may continue to avail of work-isolation for the first 24 hours while in Newfoundland and Labrador provided they receive negative results for each of the first two COVID-19 Rapid tests, as required under Order No. 4(d), taken at least 24 hours apart.

10. The Order No. 35 of the Special Measures Order (Re-Opening – Travel - Step 2 – December 21, 2021 Update) is hereby repealed.

- **11.** The Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) is hereby amended by repealing the heading "Other unvaccinated workers" immediately before Order No. 41 and replacing it with "Other workers".
- **12.** The Order No. 41 of the Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:
 - 41(1) Notwithstanding Order No. 4 of this Special Measures Order, fully vaccinated truck drivers who are residents of Newfoundland and Labrador:
 - a. may avail of work-isolation immediately upon arrival in the province and may continue to avail of work-isolation for the first 24 hours while in Newfoundland and Labrador provided they receive negative results for each of the first two COVID-19 Rapid tests, as required under Order No. 4(d), taken at least 24 hours apart;
 - b. must take a COVID-19 Rapid test on each of the five days upon arrival, or for the duration of their stay in the province if less than 5 days; and
 - c. are not required to self-isolate from immediate family members.
 - 41(2) Notwithstanding Order No. 4(e) of this Special Measures Order, fully vaccinated truck drivers who are not residents of Newfoundland and Labrador may avail of work-isolation immediately upon arrival in the province and may continue to avail of work-isolation for the first 24 hours while in Newfoundland and Labrador provided they receive negative results for each of the first two COVID-19 Rapid tests, as required under Order No. 4(d), taken at least 24 hours apart..
 - 41(3) Notwithstanding Order No. 6(a), unvaccinated truck drivers who are residents of Newfoundland and Labrador:
 - a. may avail of work-isolation immediately upon arrival in the province and may continue to avail of work-isolation provided that they, where in the province for less than seven days, obtain a COVID-19 PCR test as soon as possible upon their return to the province, unless they were tested in the province within the previous seven days;
 - b. must take a COVID-19 Rapid test on each of the five days upon arrival or for the duration of their stay in the province if less than 5 days; and
 - are not required to self-isolate from immediate family members pending a negative COVID-19 PCR test.

- 41(4) Notwithstanding Order No. 6(a), unvaccinated truck drivers who are not residents of Newfoundland and Labrador:
- a. may avail of work-isolation immediately upon arrival in the province for a period of 7 days; and
- b. must take a COVID-19 Rapid test on each of the five days upon arrival in the province or for the duration of their stay in the province if less than 5 days.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:

- This Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) (Self-Isolation Amendment) is effective as of 12:01 a.m. NST on January 22, 2022.
- 2. All other Orders contained in the Special Measures Order (Re-Opening Travel Step 2 December 21, 2021 Update) remain in full force and effect.
- **3.** All other Special Measures 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 21st day of January 2022.

Dr. Janice Fitzgerald

Chief Medical Officer of Health