# Special Measures Order (Re-Opening - Travel)

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

July 1, 2021

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 (Travel) dated May 15, 2020, Special Measures Order (Labrador-Quebec Border Amendments) dated June 26, 2020, Special Measures Order (Revised Travel Exemption Order) dated November 25, 2020, Special Measures Order (Updated Self-Isolation Exemption Order) dated November 27, 2020, Special Measures Order (Rotational Workers Self-Isolation Order) dated March 12, 2021, Special Measures Order (Essential Worker Work-Isolation Order) dated April 23, 2021, Special Measures Order (Traveler COVID-19 Testing) dated May 15, 2021, and Special Measures Order (Atlantic Canadian Travelers) dated June 23, 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, certain restrictions set out in the aforementioned Special Measures Orders as they pertain to travel to the province are no longer required in the circumstances to respond to the public health emergency;
- **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) 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**:

# **Definitions**

- 1. In this Order,
  - (a) "Fully vaccinated" means when at least two weeks have passed since an individual's second dose of COVID-19 vaccine or first dose where an individual has received a one-dose COVID-19 vaccine.
  - (b) "COVID-19 test" means a molecular COVID-19 test acceptable to the Chief Medical Officer of Health, but does not include an antigen test;
  - (c) "COVID-19 vaccine" means vaccines approved by Health Canada, as may be amended from time to time.
  - (d) "Partially vaccinated" means when at least two weeks have passed since an individual's first dose of COVID-19 vaccine where the vaccine consists of two doses; and
  - (e) "Unvaccinated" means where an individual has not received any dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

# **Travel Form**

- 2. All individuals arriving in Newfoundland and Labrador from outside the province must complete a travel form and submit it to a representative of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, as indicated, prior to arrival or at their point of entry in the province.
- Information contained in the travel from, including proof of receipt of COVID-19 vaccine and proof of receipt of a negative COVID-19 test may be subject to review by public health officials for the purpose of auditing and verifying compliance with this Special Measures Order.

#### Fully vaccinated individuals

4. All individuals arriving in Newfoundland and Labrador who are fully vaccinated and who provide proof of receipt of a full regime of COVID-19 vaccine are exempt from the requirements set out in Orders 5 through 18 of this Special Measures Order.

# Partially Vaccinated Individuals

5. All individuals arriving in Newfoundland and Labrador who are partially vaccinated and who provide proof of receipt of a COVID-19 vaccine are exempt from the requirements set out in Orders 6 through 18 of this Special Measures Order where they provide results of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of their arrival in the province. In the absence of this pre-arrival negative COVID-19 test result, these individuals must self-isolate upon arrival in the province until results of a negative COVID-19 test are received.

# Unvaccinated Individuals

- **6.** All individuals arriving in Newfoundland and Labrador who are unvaccinated must:
  - a. Self-isolate for 14 days upon their arrival in the province;
  - b. Provide specifics of their plan for complying with the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival in the province;
  - c. Be available for contact with public health officials during the duration of the 14 day self-isolation period; and
  - d. Where 5 years of age or order, comply with the following testing requirements during their 14 day self-isolation period:
    - i. Where an individual is fully self-isolating away from others in a self-contained dwelling or part of a dwelling and where there is no contact with others, the individual must undergo COVID-19 testing on day 11, 12, or 13 after their arrival in the province; or
    - ii. Where an individual is not fully self-isolating away from others in a self-contained dwelling or part of a dwelling, the individual must undergo COVID-19 testing at each of the following intervals:
      - 1. Upon their arrival in the province or on day 1 or 2 after their arrival: and
      - 2. On day 11, 12, or 13 after their arrival in the province.

#### <u>Unvaccinated Rotational Workers</u>

- 7. Rotational workers who are unvaccinated and who wish to avail of modified selfisolation requirements as set out in this Special Measures Order must be tested for COVID-19 through public health at each of the following intervals:
  - a. As soon as possible upon their return to the province;
  - b. No earlier than seven days after their return to the province; and

- c. On day 11, 12 or 13 after their return to the province.
- **8.** Notwithstanding self-isolation requirements set out in Order No. 6 above, provided that:
  - a. the rotational worker receives a negative COVID-19 test result upon arrival in the province; and
  - b. is not returning to the province from a point of origin outside of Canada,

these rotational workers may, during the period of self-isolation, leave their property, go for a drive and receive medical attention. They may attend health services appointments where they comply with the following:

- i. Rotational workers must disclose to the health care practitioner, prior to attending the appointment, that they are a rotational worker;
- ii. Rotational workers may attend non-urgent appointments only when they are asymptomatic; and
- iii. Rotational workers may attend urgent or emergent appointments even where symptomatic provided that they follow public health protocols and any direction from the medical or dental clinic.
- **9.** Rotational workers who are unvaccinated, during their period of self-isolation, are not permitted to:
  - a. enter public places, including grocery stores, shopping malls or banks;
  - b. visit family members outside of their household;
  - c. allow individuals outside of the family's household to enter the household;
  - d. frequent common spaces, where they live in a condominium or an apartment.
- 10. Asymptomatic rotational workers who are unvaccinated and who receive a negative COVID-19 test result through public health at least seven days after their return to the province, are permitted to follow modified self-isolation requirements for the remainder of the 14-day self-isolation period. A rotational worker who is subject to modified isolation requirements, in accordance with this Order, must:
  - a. not leave self-isolation until they receive the second negative COVID-19 test result, regardless of when the result is received:
  - b. immediately self-isolate if the rotational worker develops COVID-19 symptoms:
  - c. wear a mask when coming into contact with individuals outside of their household:
  - d. not attend gatherings and crowds; and
  - e. not visit long-term care facilities, personal care homes and assisted-living facilities, but for exceptional circumstances such as end of life.

For greater certainty, unless otherwise prohibited in another Special Measures Order, a rotational worker who is subject to the foregoing modified isolation requirements may:

- i. enter public places, including grocery stores, shopping malls or banks;
- ii. visit family members outside of their household;
- iii. allow individuals outside of their family's household to enter the household; and
- iv. frequent common spaces, where they live in a condominium or an apartment

for the remainder of the 14-day self isolation period.

- 11. Adult members of the household of a rotational worker who is self-isolating in accordance with this Order must wear masks when outside of their household and avoid gatherings and visiting long-term care facilities, personal care homes and assisted-living facilities as much as possible for the 14 days following the worker's return home.
- 12. If an asymptomatic rotational worker does not get tested for COVID-19 as set out in Order No. 7 above, that rotational worker is required to self-isolate for 14 days in accordance with Order No. 6 above.

### **Unvaccinated Essential Workers**

- **13.** Notwithstanding Order No. 6 above, asymptomatic essential workers who are unvaccinated and who wish to avail of work-isolation while in Newfoundland and Labrador must:
  - Comply with the testing requirements as set out in Order No. 14 below;
     and
  - b. Only present to work upon receipt of a negative COVID-19 test result, unless granted an exemption where the nature of the work is urgent and critical and a delay in presenting to work is not possible.
- **14.** Essential workers who wish to avail of work-isolation in accordance with this Special Measures Order must be tested for COVID-19 through public health at each of the following intervals:
  - a. Upon their arrival in the province or on day 1 or 2 after their arrival in the province;
  - b. On day 7, 8 or 9 after their arrival in the province; and
  - c. On day 11, 12 or 13 after their arrival in the province.
- 15. If an asymptomatic essential worker does not get tested for COVID-19 as set out in Order No. 14 above, that worker is required to self-isolate for 14 days before presenting to work in the province.

- **16.** All essential workers who avail of work-isolation must:
  - a. practice physical distancing as appropriate and in accordance with the nature of their work;
  - b. self-isolate when not working; and
  - c. isolate away from others at their self-isolation accommodation.

#### Other unvaccinated workers

- **17.** Notwithstanding Order No. 6 of this Special Measures Order, truck drivers who are unvaccinated and are residents of Newfoundland and Labrador:
  - a. who are in the province for less than 7 days, must be tested for COVID-19
    as soon as possible upon their return, unless they were tested in the
    province within the previous 7 days;
  - b. who are in the province for more than 7 days, may avail of modified selfisolation for rotational workers as set out in this Special Measures Order; and
  - c. are not required to self-isolate from immediate family members pending a negative COVID-19 test.
- **18.** Order No. 13 and Order No. 14 above do not apply to:
  - Asymptomatic essential workers who are in the province for 2 days or less; and
  - b. Truck drivers who are not residents of Newfoundland and Labrador.

# Atlantic Canada Residents

- **19.** Orders 4 through 18 of this Special Measures Order, including the requirement to self-isolate, to provide specifics of a self-isolation plan and to comply with COVID-19 testing, do not apply to:
  - (a) residents of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island or New Brunswick when entering the province of Newfoundland and Labrador; and
  - (b) residents of Newfoundland and Labrador when returning to the province from another province in Atlantic Canada

provided they have not travelled beyond the named provinces in the previous 14 days.

# **General**

- **20.** All individuals subject to this Special Measures Order must:
  - a. be available for follow up with public health officials;
  - b. practice appropriate physical distancing;
  - c. self-monitor daily for symptoms of COVID-19; and
  - d. self-isolate should symptoms develop.

# Previous Special Measures Orders

- **21.** The following Special Measures Orders are repealed:
  - Except for Order No. 6 pertaining to travel between Labrador and Quebec;
     Special Measures Order (Travel) dated May 15, 2020 as amended by
     Special Measures Order (Labrador-Quebec Border Amendments) dated
     June 26, 2020;
  - b. Special Measures Order (Labrador-Quebec Border Amendments) dated June 26, 2020;
  - c. Special Measures Order (Revised Travel Exemption Order) dated November 25, 2020;
  - d. Except for Order No. 6 pertaining to travel between Labrador and Quebec, Special Measures Order (Updated Self-Isolation Exemption Order) dated November 27, 2020;
  - e. Special Measures Order (Rotational Workers Self-Isolation Order) dated March 12, 2021;
  - f. Special Measures Order (Essential Worker Work-Isolation Order) dated April 23, 2021;
  - g. Special Measures Order (Traveler COVID-19 Testing) dated May 15, 2021; and
  - h. Special Measures Order (Atlantic Canadian Travelers) dated June 23, 2021.

#### IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:

- 1. This Order is effective as of 12:01 a.m. on July 1, 2021.
- **2.** 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 27th day of June, 2021.

Dr. Janice Fitzgerald

Chief Medical Officer of Health