Special Measures Order (Traveler COVID-19 Testing)

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

May 15, 2021

TO: 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 made a Special Measures Order effective March 20, 2020, and updated on May 15, 2020, whereby all individuals arriving in Newfoundland and Labrador from outside the province, including those arriving from other provinces and territories in Canada, must self-isolate for 14 days;
- E. The Chief Medical Officer of Health believes that further special measures are necessary for the purpose of protecting the health of the population and preventing, remedying or mitigating the effects of the public health emergency; and
- **F.** 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 (Traveler COVID-19 Testing) 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 MAKE THE FOLLOWING ORDER:**

- 1. Subject to Special Measures Order (Rotational Workers Self-Isolation Order) effective March 12, 2021 and Special Measures Order (Essential Workers Work-Isolation Order) effective April 23, 2021, all asymptomatic individuals aged 5 years or older arriving in Newfoundland and Labrador from outside the province must comply with the following testing requirements during their 14-day self-isolation period:
 - a. 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
 - b. 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:
 - Upon their arrival in the province or on day 1 or 2 after their arrival;
 and
 - ii. On day 11, 12, or 13 after their arrival in the province.
- 2. Order No. 1 of this Special Measures Order (Traveler COVID-19 Testing) does not apply to asymptomatic individuals who are in the province for 2 days or less.
- **3.** The Order No. 7 of the Special Measures Order (Rotational Workers Self-Isolation Order) is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

If an asymptomatic rotational worker does not get tested for COVID-19 as contemplated by Order No. 2 above, that rotational worker is required to:

- a. self-isolate for 14 days in accordance with Order No. 1 above; and
- b. comply with the testing requirements set out in Special Measures Order (Traveler Covid-19 Testing) effective May 15, 2020.
- **4.** The Order No. 6 of the Special Measures Order (Essential Workers Work-Isolation Order) is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

Subject to Order No. 3 and Order No. 5 above, if an asymptomatic essential worker does not get tested for COVID-19 as contemplated by Order No. 2 above, that worker is required to:

- a. self-isolate for 14 days before presenting to work in the province; and
- b. comply with the testing requirements set out in Special Measures Order (Traveler Covid-19 Testing) effective May 15, 2020.
- 5. An individual subject to this Order who develops symptoms at any time during the 14-day self-isolation period must undergo COVID-19 testing even where a negative COVID-19 test result was previously received.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT:

- 1. This Special Measures Order (Traveler COVID-19 Testing) is effective as of 12:01 a.m. on May 15, 2021.
- 2. All other Orders contained in the Special Measures Order (Rotational Workers Self-Isolation Order) and Special Measures Order (Essential Workers Work-Isolation Order) remain in full force and effect.
- **3.** 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 14th day of May, 2021.

Dr. Janice Fitzgerald

Chief Medical Officer of Health