

# Alberta eases public health measures

## Dear staff, physicians and volunteers,

The Government of Alberta announced today that on June 15th the province will move to the final step of a three-phase approach to easing public health measures. Details are in a government news release.

AHS will continue to keep the health and well-being of our patients, families, staff, physicians, volunteers, and all Albertans at the forefront of everything we do. Some information specific to our facilities is included in today's update.

### Masking

With the implementation of Step 3 on June 15, masking will still be required at all AHS, Alberta Precision Laboratories and Covenant Health facilities. Continuous masking remains in place at all acute care, continuing care and community locations, including immunization and lab collection sites provincewide.

Masking will continue to apply to everyone, including staff, physicians, volunteers, designated support persons and visitors in patient care areas and in common spaces like the cafeteria and waiting areas.

## Staying Home When Ill

AHS staff will continue to be restricted from attending work when they have COVID-19 core symptoms or are confirmed to have COVID-19 in according with the Attending Work with COVID-19 Symptoms, Positive Test or Close Contact Directive. COVID-19 PCR testing continues to be available for healthcare workers.

All AHS staff must continue to follow the current safety measures in place, including completing the Daily Fit for Work Screening before each shift. Other simple actions include physical distancing, and continued hand hygiene to help keep everyone safe, and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

AHS understands the importance of family support when seeking or receiving care in an acute or congregate care facility. To minimize the risk of transmission to vulnerable patients and the teams that care for them, the current visitation guidelines will remain in place.

These guidelines are being reviewed and will be updated as our pandemic response evolves. We will share more information on visitation guidelines in the days ahead.

# Thank you

We thank all healthcare workers for continuing to follow the safety measures that remain in place to keep us, and our patients safe. Albertans are relying on us to be there for them when they need us. Thank you for being a valuable member of the AHS team, and for continuing to work together as we learn to navigate the ongoing public health reality of COVID-19.

Sincerely,

## Mauro Chies

Interim AHS President & CEO

# Dr. Laura McDougall

Senior Medical Officer of Health

