PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Together, we can slow the spread of COVID-19 by making a conscious effort to keep a physical distance between each other. Physical distancing is proven to be one of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of illness during an outbreak. With patience and cooperation, we can all do our part.

What does physical distancing mean?

This means making changes in your everyday routines in order to minimize close contact with others, including:
- avoiding crowded places and non-essential gatherings
- avoiding common greetings, such as handshakes
- limiting contact with people at higher risk (e.g. older adults and those in poor health)
- keeping a distance of at least 2 arms lengths (approximately 2 metres) from others, as much as possible

Here’s how you can practice physical distancing:

- greet with a wave instead of a handshake, a kiss or a hug
- stay home as much as possible, including for meals and entertainment
- shop or take public transportation during off-peak hours
- conduct virtual meetings
- host virtual playdates for your kids
- use technology to keep in touch with friends and family

If possible,
- use food delivery services or online shopping
- exercise at home or outside
- work from home

Remember to:

- wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds and avoid touching your face
- cough or sneeze into the bend of your arm
- avoid touching surfaces people touch often

If you’re concerned you may have COVID-19:

- separate yourself from others as soon as you have symptoms
- if you are outside the home when a symptom develops, go home immediately and avoid taking public transit
- stay home and follow the advice of your Public Health Authority, who may recommend isolation
- call ahead to a health care provider if you are ill and seeking medical attention

NOTE: This information is for the general population. The Government of Canada is implementing an Emergency Order under the Quarantine Act that requires persons entering Canada—whether by air, sea or land to:
- isolate for 14 days if they have symptoms of COVID-19
- quarantine (self-isolate) themselves for 14 days if they are asymptomatic in order to limit the introduction and spread of COVID-19.

The 14-day period begins on the day the person enters Canada.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
@canada.ca/coronavirus  1-833-784-4397