



COMMUNICATION MEMO

Office of the President

2020-03-15

MEMO: COVID-19 - BRAMPTON CAMPUS UPDATE

ATTN: Moving to essential services only on March 16, 2020

TO: All Employees, Students, Faculty, Board of Governors

FROM: Asima Vezina (President)

Over the past 48 hours, the City of Brampton has announced that City facilities including City Hall, Recreation and Community Centres, Brampton Library branches and the Rose Theatre will close from March 16 to April 5 inclusive. All critical services will continue to operate as usual to support the community.

Based on these events, the Senior Executive and COVID-19 Task Force of Algoma University has made the decision to **close the Brampton campus, with the exception of the third floor (24 Queen St. E.) Computer Lab and essential services - effective 12:00 am March 16th.**

The open computer lab will continue as an essential service for students until further notice. The lab will have increased frequency of cleaning, disinfecting, and safety protocols as the University works to support students who do not have the required technology to complete final assignments and coursework. We encourage any users to practice social distancing of 2 meters/6 feet of spacing between students within the lab. A limited number of administrators will be on the Brampton campus on Monday, March 16 to support this transition.

All non-essential employees- staff and faculty- based at the Brampton Campus will work from home, beginning Monday, March 16.

What this means:

- The Computer Lab on the third floor of 24 Queen Street East will remain open from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm. Students who use these labs should maintain as much distance as possible from other users and wash hands before and after the use of shared equipment.
- Brampton IT will be available by email: rasheed.boustani@algonau.ca for technical support as needed. If you are unable to email, you may call **(905) 451-0100 extension 3522**. While the lab will be cleaned and monitored, direct staff support will be provided remotely.
- The remainder of the Brampton Campus staff will work from home and will continue to support students remotely.
- Supervisors will work with staff to ensure they have the resources to do their jobs remotely.
- An FAQ memo for Brampton students with additional details will be circulated this afternoon.
- Students, faculty and staff are reminded to visit the algonau.ca/covid19 webpage for ongoing updates and related FAQs.

As your President, I thank you for your continued support as we work through this unprecedented situation. I am confident that by continuing to work positively and collaboratively as a team, together, we will be able to keep people within our community safe while at the same time ensuring that the academic needs of our students are met. These continue to remain our two key priorities as we work alongside the Ontario government and health care systems to “flatten the curve” in the global strategy and reduce the overall impact of COVID-19 on our community.

I appreciate the considerable stress and disruption the evolving COVID-19 situation is causing, and I will continue to provide regular updates. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to work together to navigate this complex situation. Please take care of yourselves.

Sincerely,



Asima Vezina
President & Vice-Chancellor, Algoma University