



COMMUNICATION MEMO

Algoma U Pandemic Task Force

2021-01-13

MEMO: Algoma University Campus Updates - Provincial State of Emergency

TO: Faculty, Staff and Students

CC: OSSTF & OPSEU, AUSU & SASA Presidents and Pandemic Taskforce

FR: Brianne Pringle, Director of Pandemic Planning/COVID-19

Yesterday, the Ontario Government [announced](#) that as of **12:01 am on January 14, 2021** the province of Ontario will be entering a **State of Emergency and issuing a Stay at Home Order**. These measures will be in place until at least **February 11, 2021**.

The Ontario government has reiterated the need for **everyone** to do their part in following public health orders. We all need to find ways to stay home and connect virtually. Only leave your home for essential purposes and limit any outdoor gatherings to a maximum of five people. Masks must be worn in all indoor settings and are encouraged to be worn outside if distancing cannot be ensured. Our province is being impacted, and we urge the Algoma University community to continue to adhere to all measures. Our collective efforts will make a difference.

The **Sault Ste. Marie and Brampton Campuses** will be **extending the current campus closure until February 11, 2021**. A limited number of modified services will continue to be available. Please see the full details below. Only essential workers will be permitted to be on campus, and all other employees will continue working from home.

The **Timmins Campus** will follow Northern College's [direction](#) on closures and use of space.

WINTER 2021 SEMESTER UPDATE

Winter term classes will commence on Monday, January 18th via asynchronous [Brightspace] and synchronous [technologically assisted instruction] delivery.

With the new order in place, **all classes/laboratories originally scheduled for face-to-face instruction will be via technology assistance for the entire semester.**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the departments, instructors and staff who worked to help prepare the courses and the campus for face-to-face instruction. This was not an easy task, and we appreciate the willingness and understanding of safety as a top priority to be able to pivot swiftly to technology assisted learning.

Research - Please work directly with Brianne Pringle on any ongoing research and access to campus.

Placements - It is preferred that student placements, including practicums, internships, and field placements for Winter 21 be completed virtually at this time. In-person placements may be allowed to proceed in exceptional circumstances and will be managed on a case-by-case basis. Please contact Brianne Pringle, Director of Pandemic Planning and Dawn White, Director, Experiential Learning and International Affairs to discuss details of your request for an in-person placement. If you need guidance around support for students completing virtual placements or have questions with respect to workplace insurance or health and safety for placement students, please contact Dawn White via email at dawn.white@algomau.ca.

SERVICE IMPACTS FOR SAULT STE. MARIE

Access to campus - The *permission to be on campus list* for Sault Ste. Marie will be reviewed and will be limited to support essential services (i.e. Research, IT, Physical Plant or work that cannot be done remotely). Brianne Pringle will contact you should your access to campus be impacted due to this review.

SSM Faculty who require access to campus to utilize **instruction** space must contact David Marasco and Brianne Pringle via email with days, times and space requests. Please note that only the instructor will be permitted in the space.

Library - Will remain closed until further notice. Curbside pick-up will be available starting January 18.

Computer Labs - Will remain closed until further notice. The University continues to offer our Laptop loaner program for those who may need a computer during this time. Please contact IT Services for more information.

IT Service - To connect with an IT Service Desk team member, visit the IT Support portal page via servicedesk.algomau.ca, search our solutions for self serve options or submit an incident or service request. Should your request be of an urgent nature, submit a ticket and then call 705-949-2301 x 4450 or (888) 902-7866 during the hours listed below or start a chat session.

8:45am - 7:30pm Monday - Friday
1:00pm - 4:00pm Saturday - Sunday

Algoma University Bookstore - Course texts/materials will be available for curbside pickup or ship to home over this period.

AUSU Food Pantry - the AUSU Food Pantry will continue to be available for curbside pick up by appointment during this period.

GLC - will remain closed until February 16th.

In-Person Meetings/Gatherings - will not be permitted until further notice.

REMINDER ON TRAVEL OUTSIDE REGION SSM

Until further notice, **anyone who travels outside the Algoma region will not be permitted to come to campus for 14 days.** Students in residence who have travelled outside of the Algoma Public Health region will be required to follow an isolation protocol upon their return to residence.

ACCOMMODATIONS/SUPPORTS

As always, employees who require accommodation should contact their management officer. Students who require COVID related accommodations should contact covid@algomau.ca.

This situation will be closely monitored, and notice will be provided to our internal community when new information is made available.

COVID-19 RELATED UPDATES

For ongoing updates, please visit Algoma U's dedicated [COVID-19 page](#).

STAY SAFE - STAY LOCAL - STAY HOME

Thunderbirds protecting Thunderbirds - Thunderbirds protecting Community