



COMMUNICATION MEMO

Pandemic Task Force

November 18, 2022

MEMO: Important COVID-19 Reminder

TO: All Students, Staff and Faculty

FROM: Brianne Pringle, Director, People & Culture

On November 14, 2022, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Kieran Moore issued a statement strongly recommending that Ontarians resume masking in all public spaces. This is due to the rise in positive cases of COVID-19 and RSV (*respiratory syncytial virus*) and an increase in hospitalizations due to these viruses. In addition, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) reported Monday that we are entering an influenza (flu) epidemic as cases rise beyond the seasonal threshold. Health officials are warning that the “triple threat” of the three illnesses could worsen in the coming months.

It is imperative that our entire community do what they can to keep each other safe during this time. This can be done by following a few simple steps:

1. It is **strongly recommended** that in all indoor public settings, **that students and employees wear a well fitted medical mask**. Should anyone require masks you may contact People & Culture. Each classroom continues to be equipped with masks and sanitizer as well.
2. Continue to self monitor and screen for symptoms before coming to campus. **If you are feeling unwell, stay home and get well!**
3. Remember to **practice proper hand hygiene** - wash your hands often, and use the many sanitization stations available throughout our campuses.
4. **Stay up-to-date with vaccines**. Public Health continues to emphasize being vaccinated is the number one defense against COVID-19 and the Flu. Vaccines are widely available at local pharmacies or through local clinics (details are found through regional health unit websites):

[Algoma Public Health](#)

[Peel Public Health](#)

[Porcupine Health Unit](#)

Algoma University continues to follow [Ontario Public Health Guidelines](#) and will provide updates to our community as required. As always, we must be prepared to pivot should the need be required. This could include reinstating vaccination, masking and/or screening policies.

We thank you all for your ongoing commitment to keeping each other safe. Our collective efforts will continue to make a difference.

Should you have any questions or concerns about COVID-19, specific to Algoma University, please email covid@algonau.ca.

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

Thunderbirds protecting Thunderbirds - Thunderbirds protecting Community