

October 20, 2021

Attention: Residents of multi-unit dwellings, apartments, condominiums and other shared living accommodations

Foremost, let us be the first to acknowledge the sacrifices you've had to make over the last 19 months. We recognize the challenges too, that come from sharing the common spaces of your home with others; thank you for protecting both yourself and your neighbours.

With increasing vaccination rates, the prospect of youth 5-11 being able to receive the vaccine soon, and existing public health measures that are working, there is reason to be optimistic. In the interim, however, the 'fourth wave' continues to pose a very real threat to our health, our community, and our economy.

The timing of this letter is not accidental. As cooler, wetter weather becomes the norm – more people are going to move indoors which increases the likelihood that COVID-19 will spread.

As such, we are asking for your help to reduce the risk of transmission where you live. In the event that you receive a hard copy of this letter, please visit www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca for all of the resources detailed below.

- 1) [Get vaccinated](#). Vaccination for those eligible remains the most effective tool we have to get ahead of this pandemic. The vaccine is safe, and the vaccine is effective:

[COVID-19 Vaccine Questions and Answers](#) (Handout)

[COVID-19 Vaccine Questions and Answers](#) (YouTube)

Did you know: If you are identified as a high risk contact to someone that has COVID-19, in addition to the health protection offered by the vaccine, [the difference between being vaccinated and unvaccinated is stark](#): people who are unvaccinated will likely have to *self-isolate* for 10 days, whereas people who are fully vaccinated will likely only have to *self-monitor* for 10 days. Plainly, self-isolation could mean time off work and time away from family and friends.

- 2) Where possible, [increase the fresh air intake into your unit](#).
- 3) Familiarize yourself with the requirements of [O. Reg. 364/20](#) – the Rules for Step 3 – as they apply to living in multi-unit dwellings. Namely (but not exclusively):
 - Where the ability to remain physically distanced exists, **gathering limits shall not exceed 25 indoors, and 100 outdoors**
 - [Masks are required to be worn in indoor common spaces by everyone](#) (with limited exceptions)
 - Physical distancing of at least 6' must be maintained between people you don't live with

[We have compiled a variety of resources](#) that will support you in reducing the transmission of COVID-19.

Moving forward, we continue to appreciate your willingness to support these public health measures as we re-double our efforts to get us out of this fourth, and hopefully final, wave.

Respectfully,

COVID-19 Enforcement Team