



# YMCA of Northeastern Ontario

March 17, 2022

Dear YMCA Child Care Families,

Thank you for your ongoing dedication and commitment to keeping our child care centres safe for children, families and educators. With the recent announcement from the Province of Ontario and the Ministry of Education we would like to update you on a few changes as well as provide some reminders.

## **Isolation**

Isolation periods for close household contacts have been updated as per the below and outlined in the attached flow charts.

- Close contacts who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days do not need to isolate, just monitor for symptoms and wear a mask (where appropriate)
- Close contacts who are 18+ and fully vaccinated including a booster dose do not need to isolate, just monitor for symptoms and wear a mask
- Close contacts who are under 18 and fully vaccinated (no booster required) do not need to isolate, just monitor for symptoms and wear a mask
- All other individuals need to follow the previous isolation requirements including those under 5

## **International Travel**

With the March Break currently happening, families may choose to make travel plans. If travelling internationally, please ensure that you are following [federal directives related to international travel](#) and quarantine requirements which could include isolation or wearing a mask when in public.

## **Screening – Effective March 21, 2022**

Children, Parents and Staff are required to self-screen each morning before attending the child care centre using the [Ministry of Educations School and Child Care Screening](#).

Individuals are required to follow the direction on attending child care and isolation as per your individual situations once completing the form. Screening will no longer be active and confirmed upon entry. Staff will continue to monitor children for symptoms of ill health and contact parents for pick up should symptoms start while in our care.



### **Masking and Eye Protection - Effective March 21, 2022**

The use of masks and eye protection both inside and outside child care centre's is optional for children, staff and volunteers. Those who wish to do so will continue to be provided with masks and eye protection provided by the Ministry of Education. Staff are still required to wear proper PPE when in the isolation room with ill individuals.

### **Parents/Guardians Entering the Child Care Centre – Starting the week of March 28, 2022**

We are currently working with our school board partners to welcome parents and guardians back into our child care centres for pick up and drop off each day. Over the next two weeks we will be monitoring our community cases from the return from March Break and starting the week of March 28<sup>th</sup> we will slowly start to transition families back into our centres.

As details will be slightly different at all of our child care centres an individual communication will be distributed per site which could include sanitization stations, entry/exit doors and reminders of best practices.

### **Vaccination Policy**

The YMCA of Northeastern Ontario is continuing to enforce our YMCA COVID Vaccine Policy for all staff, students, providers and volunteers. All individuals included in the vaccine policy are required to be fully vaccinated (2+ doses) or complete Rapid Antigen Testing three times per week. Parent/guardians are not required to share their vaccination status or be denied entry to the child care due to their status.

On behalf of the YMCA of Northeastern Ontario, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support and understanding. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Sherry Ricci*

Name: Sherry Ricci, RECE  
Title: Child, Youth & Family Development  
YMCA of Northeastern Ontario