



Centre of Excellence in Anishinaabe Education

Date: March 11, 2020
To: Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig Students, Faculty and Staff
From: Della Anaquod, President and Academic
Re: **COVID-19**

All members of Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig are asked to review this memo in its entirety. The evolving nature of the COVID-19 situation necessitates the sharing of this entire update.

As the COVID-19 situation evolves, Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig is taking proactive steps to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our University community. We are sharing some related updates that have recently come forward.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has made the assessment that COVID-19 can be characterized as a pandemic. WHO Director, General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus notes that “Describing the situation as a pandemic does not change WHO’s assessment of the threat posed by the virus, it does not change what WHO is doing, and it doesn’t change what countries should do.”

Shingwauk is aware that Laurentian University has temporarily suspended classes as a precaution, as a result of a confirmed case within the Sudbury community. Faculty and staff remain on campus and Laurentian University remains open.

As of March 11, 2020, the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario have provided the following updates:

1. The Public Health Agency of Canada has **assessed the public health risk** associated with the COVID-19, **as low for the general population in Canada** but could change rapidly. There is an increased risk of more severe outcomes for Canadians:
 - age 65 or over
 - with compromised immune systems
 - with underlying medical conditions

2. While a COVID-19 outbreak is not expected in Canada, the public health system is prepared to respond and the public health risk is continually reassessed as new information becomes available.

Shingwauk is continuing to closely monitor the Public Health Agency of Canada advisories and will also continue to update the University community as information becomes available via memos.

For proactive measures, the Shingwauk Kinooomaage Gamig is also working on pandemic planning and updating business/academic continuity plans.

Shingwauk Kinooomaage Gamig will continue to review the travel advisories and their impacts on employees and students. In addition to the normal safe travel procedures recommended by Canadian travel advisors, we ask that any **University-related International travel** be reported to Mitch Case, Director of Student Services mcase@shingwauk.ca or Brianne Pringle at brianne.pringle@algomau.ca or 705-949-2301 ext 4373 even if it has already been approved, so we can continue to monitor the situation closely and how it may impact Shingwauk Kinooomaage Gamig.

The Government of Canada has noted the following regarding risk to Canadian travelers:

The risk to Canadian travelers abroad will vary depending on the destination, as well as the individuals' age and health status. There are some areas where the Government of Canada recommends avoiding all travel or all non-essential travel. In addition, the Government of Canada has active travel health notices for the following areas:

- China
- Germany
- France
- Hong Kong
- Japan
- Iran
- Italy
- Singapore
- South Korea
- Spain

As well, the risk for COVID-19 may be increased for certain settings such as:

- cruise ships
- heavily affected areas
- international conferences and other large gatherings in enclosed spaces

Additional advisories:

- Those travelling from Hubei province, China or Iran in the last 14 days are to self-isolate at home and contact their local public health authority within 24 hours of your return to the country.
- Those who have traveled outside of Canada should monitor your health for fever, cough and difficulty breathing for 14 days after you arrive in Canada. If you have these symptoms, please notify your public health authority.

For the most up to date information on travel regarding COVID-19 please visit the [Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Travel Advice](#) webpage.

Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig will continue to actively monitor the situation and is in contact with Health Officials. We will provide updates as needed, advise of any impacts to our campus, and ensure that the appropriate prevention and response measures are taken.

Additional Information:

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

- fever
- cough
- difficulty breathing

Many of these symptoms are similar to seasonal influenza. Should you experience these symptoms AND have recently traveled internationally to an affected region, avoid contact with others and follow-up with your health care professional. Advise your health professional in advance of attending the clinic of your symptoms and travel history.

If you have been diagnosed with COVID-19, please reach out to Mitch Case at mcase@shingwauk.ca or 705-942-5069, or contact Brianne Pringle at brianne.pringle@algonau.ca or 705-949-2301 ext 4373 to ensure proper accommodations are in place.

To help protect yourself from possible infection, health officials recommend that everyone:

- wash your hands frequently and well with soap and warm water;
- use alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth;
- cough or sneeze into your elbow, or cover your cough or sneeze;
- avoid close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness;
- stay home if you are sick and avoid contact with others;
- if you are sick, contact a health care provider about your symptoms and inform them of your travel history.

If you need support please contact the following support services:

For students in need of support, please contact Student Success Central at Algonia University by phone 705-949-2301 ext.4367 or by email healthservices@algonau.ca.

For faculty and staff in need of support, please call the Employee and Family Assistance Program toll-free 24 hours a day, seven days a week for immediate, confidential help at 1-877-630-6701/TTY: 1-877-371-9978.