

**Carleton University
Joint Health and Safety Committee and Union Leadership
COVID-19 Update Meeting #19 – February 10, 2021
Microsoft Teams, 10:00 am**

The JHSC Management co-chair Tony Lackey, chaired the meeting.
Given the special nature of the meeting, quorum was not required (although it was attained)

Information #1. Tony provided an update related to new COVID restrictions and protocols.

Tony provided an update on the new travel requirements. These require 3 days in hotel isolation until test results of the COVID testing are provided. Travelers will have to remain in hotel quarantine if they do test positive. This new protocol affects some of the university's international students. This could have an impact on recruitment. A lobbying effort is underway to allow international students to be exempt from the hotel stay quarantine requirements, as they are already under a quarantine requirement throughout the post secondary sector. The universities, including CU, have developed their own self-contained quarantining procedures in place that mimics the federal requirements.

The federal government announced that all returning travelers returning via a land border crossing will need a negative PCR test result prior to crossing back into Canada, otherwise could face up to a \$3,000 fine.

New protocols will take effect as of February 16, 2021, the Ottawa region will be assigned a colour coded risk level which will spell out the appropriate protocols to follow. As soon as the protocols are announced, the university will review the impact on operations and provide further guidance.

The vaccine rollout has gone slowly. There are several variants of the virus that are now spreading which could pose further risks. The slow vaccine rollout and the additional variants could result in a longer prolonged period of lockdown.

Nancy indicated that new screening procedures will be announced to help streamline the process. An updated communication was sent out to students to provide guidelines during the upcoming reading week break. The new provincial orders have an "emergency brake" in place to be able to reverse course in case of any spikes in cases.

Questions

Q1 – Question regarding the new screening process, specifically enquiring if the Dean of Science forms will be streamlined into the process? Due to access controls it appears that the Dean of Science forms will likely continue as a stand-alone form., to be confirmed in the coming days

Q2 – If students are going home and they live in residence, will they be required to isolate for 14 days upon their return? Yes, the students will have to isolate upon return, they will not be locked to their rooms but will have restrictions in place on their activity. Students will be asked to remain in their rooms unless they have an essential need to leave.

Next meeting(s)

The next meeting will be **Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at 10:00 AM**, Microsoft Teams.

Adjournment