Ministerial Order 2022-032 of the Minister of Health and Social Services dated 11 May 2022

Public Health Act (chapter S-2.2)

Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation

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THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES,

CONSIDERING section 118 of the Public Health Act (chapter S-2.2) which provides that the Government may declare a public health emergency in all or part of the territory of Québec where a serious threat to the health of the population, whether real or imminent, requires the immediate application of certain measures provided for in section 123 of the Act to protect the health of the population;

CONSIDERING Order in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020 declaring a public health emergency throughout Québec for a period of 10 days;

CONSIDERING that the public health emergency has consistently been renewed since that date by various Orders in Council, including by Order in Council 816-2022 dated 11 May 2022;

CONSIDERING that that Order in Council also empowers the Minister of Health and Social Services to take any of the measures provided for in subparagraphs 1 to 8 of the first paragraph of section 123 of the Public Health Act;

CONSIDERING that Ministerial Order 2022-027 dated 31 March 2022 provides for certain health measures;

CONSIDERING that the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic allows for the easing of certain measures set in place to protect the health of the population, while maintaining certain of the measures necessary to continue that protection;

ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

THAT, for the purposes of this Order, "face covering" means a mask or tightly fitting cloth that covers the nose and the mouth;

THAT it be prohibited for a health and social services institution to admit a person into a facility it maintains operating a general and specialized care hospital centre, a residential and long-term care centre or a local community service centre if the person is not wearing a face covering, or to tolerate the presence in such a facility of a person not wearing a face covering, unless the person

- (1) is less than 10 years of age;
- (2) states that the wearing of a face covering is not possible because of the person's medical condition;
- (3) is in the facility receiving care, being provided a service or engaging in a physical or other activity requiring the face covering be removed, in which case the person may remove the face covering for the duration of the care, service or activity;
- (4) momentarily removes the face covering to eat or drink, or for identification purposes;
 - (5) works or practises his or her profession in the facility;
- (6) is consuming food or a beverage in a restaurant in any room used for the purposes of restaurant services;
 - (7) is in his or her lodging unit; or
- (8) is in a room or part of such a place where only mental health care services are provided;

THAT, despite subparagraph 5 of the preceding paragraph, a person who works or practises his or her profession in such a place remain subject to the rules that apply in matters of occupational health and safety;

THAT the second and third paragraphs also apply, with the necessary modifications, to the operator of a private consulting office of physicians, nurses or assistant nurses;

THAT it be prohibited for an operator of a shared transportation service by bus, minibus, subway, boat, train or plane to admit into or tolerate the presence of a person not wearing a face covering in such a means of transportation unless

- (1) the person is less than 10 years of age and is not a student present in a school bus;
- (2) the person is a child in preschool education in a school bus in which only children in preschool education are present;
- (3) the person states that the wearing of a face covering is not possible because of the person's medical condition;
 - (4) the means of transportation is the person's usual place of work;
- (5) the person is consuming food or a beverage while in an area used for the purposes of restaurant services or the consumption of beverages;
- (6) the person momentarily removes the face covering to eat or drink, or for identification purposes;
- (7) on a ferry, the person remains in his or her vehicle or on an outside deck; or
 - (8) the person is on the outside deck of a vehicle;

THAT the prohibitions set out in the preceding paragraph also apply, subject to the same exceptions, to the driver of a motor vehicle used for remunerated passenger transportation other than in connection with the operation of a shared transportation service, excluding carpooling;

THAT a person whose usual place of work is a means of transportation referred to in the fifth paragraph or a motor vehicle referred to in the sixth paragraph remain subject to the rules that apply in matters of occupational health and safety;

THAT it be prohibited for any person not wearing a face covering

(1) to enter or be present in a facility or office referred to in the second or fourth paragraph, unless the person is covered by an exception under the second paragraph; or

(2) to enter a bus, minibus, subway, boat, train or plane used in connection with the operation of a shared transportation service or a motor vehicle used for remunerated passenger transportation, excluding carpooling, or to be present in such a means of transportation, unless the person is covered by an exception under the fifth paragraph;

THAT Ministerial Order 2022-027 dated 31 March 2022 be revoked;

THAT the measures set out in this Order take effect on 14 May 2022.

Québec, 11 May 2022

CHRISTIAN DUBÉ
Minister of Health and Social Services