CONCERNING the ordering of measures to protect the health of the population during 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 specifies 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 said Act to protect the health of the population;

CONSIDERING order in council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020, which declares a public health emergency throughout Québec for a period of 10 days;

CONSIDERING that the said order in council authorizes the Minister of Health and Social Services to order any other measure necessary to protect the health of the population, pursuant to subparagraph 8 of the first paragraph of section 123 of the said Act;

CONSIDERING that electoral polls and advance polls are scheduled for the period covered by the declaration of a public health emergency;

CONSIDERING that it is expedient to order certain measures to protect the health of the population;

## **ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

A returning officer must cancel any electoral poll and any advance poll connected to an electoral poll scheduled to be held during the period covered by the declaration of a public health emergency, as well as any advance poll held before the coming into force of this order that is connected to an electoral poll scheduled for a day included in that period; it being understood that such a cancellation does not affect the declaration of election of a person elected without opposition;

A returning officer must not publish a notice of election during the period covered by the declaration of a public health emergency.

Québec, 14 March 2020

Original signed by the Minister

DANIELLE MCCANN
Minister of Health and Social Services