

**Ministerial Order 2020-010 of the Minister of Health and Social Services  
dated 27 March 2020**

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 Order in Council 222-2020 dated 20 March 2020 renewing the public health emergency throughout Québec for a period of 10 days;

CONSIDERING that that Order in Council provides that the measures set out in Order in Council 177-2020 and the orders made pursuant to it continue to apply until 29 March 2020 or until the Government or the Minister of Health and Social Services modifies or terminates them, save exception;

CONSIDERING Order in Council 223-2020 dated 24 March 2020 which provides various measures to protect the health of the population;

CONSIDERING that that Order in Council empowers the Minister of Health and Social Services to amend the Schedule to that Order in Council to add or remove priority services or to make a clarification;

CONSIDERING that the Minister of Health and Social Services amended the Schedule to that Order in Council by Ministerial Order 2020-010 dated 27 March 2020;

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

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

ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

THAT the Schedule to Order in Council 223-2020 dated 24 March 2020 be amended by replacing paragraph c of the heading "**3. Government services and other priority activities**" by the following paragraph:

"c. Distance learning given by any institution offering higher education, vocational training or adult education programs";

THAT the conclusions of a decision or order made by the Superior Court ordering any supervised visit between child and parent, grandparents or any other person be suspended, insofar as the body responsible for the supervision is of the opinion, in light of the recommendations for public health, that the conclusions cannot be applied in a manner that protects the health of the population in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The body must, when possible, consider other safe visiting procedures using any means it deems opportune, including technological means. It must allow the conclusions to be carried out as soon as it is feasible to apply them without constituting a threat to the health of the population;

THAT a notary be authorized to remotely close a notarial act *en minute* using technological means, on the following conditions:

(1) the officiating notary must be able to see and hear each party;

(2) each party or intervenor must be able to see and hear the officiating notary;

(3) where the context requires, the witnesses must be able to see and hear the parties and the officiating notary;

(4) the signatories and the officiating notary must be able to see the notarial act or, as applicable, the part of the notarial act concerning them;

(5) the signatories other than the notary must affix their signature using technological means enabling them to be identified and confirming their consent; and

(6) the notary must affix his or her digital official signature;

THAT a notary using technological means be required to ensure the integrity and confidentiality of the documents shared and the process leading to the signing of the notarial act, and be also required to maintain the integrity of the notarial act throughout its life cycle, in particular for the purpose of ensuring its preservation;

THAT the board of directors of the Ordre des notaires du Québec, in addition, be able to establish and publish, on the Order's website, any other of the standards provided for in section 98 of the Notaries Act (chapter N-3), to the extent that the standards concern such a notarial act.

Québec, 27 March 2020

DANIELLE MCCANN

Minister of Health and  
Social Services