WHEREAS the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a pandemic on 11 March 2020;

WHEREAS, under section 118 of the Public Health Act (chapter S-2.2), 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;

WHEREAS the pandemic constitutes a serious and real threat to the health of the population that continues to require the immediate application of certain measures provided for in section 123 of the Act;

WHEREAS, while the public health emergency is in effect, despite any provision to the contrary, the Government or the Minister of Health and Social Services, if the Minister has been so empowered, may, without delay and without further formality, take any of the measures provided for in subparagraphs 1 to 8 of the first paragraph of section 123 of the Act to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020, the Government declared a public health emergency and took certain measures to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS the public health emergency was renewed until 29 March 2020 by Order in Council 222-2020 dated 20 March 2020, until 7 April 2020 by

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

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of Health and Social Services:

THAT every activity carried out in a retail commercial establishment be suspended, except for
(1) grocery stores and other food stores;
(2) pharmacies;
(3) hardware stores;
(4) service stations;
(5) pet food and supply stores;
(6) work equipment stores (safety and protection);
(7) stores that sell products, parts, and other material necessary for transportation and logistics services, and vehicle repair or maintenance, including vehicle repair and maintenance centres, but excluding the sale of vehicles;
(8) convenience stores;
(9) farm products stores;
(10) medical, orthopaedic, and eye care products stores;
(11) household and building cleaning products stores;
(12) big-box stores and other sales areas offering customers a wide variety of categories of products, including food, pharmacy or hardware products;
(13) the Société des alcools du Québec and the Société québécoise du cannabis;

THAT every activity carried out by personal care and beauty care enterprises also be suspended;

THAT, in a pharmacy referred to in subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph of the operative part of this Order in Council, only products essential to everyday life may be sold to customers;

THAT, in a hardware store referred to in subparagraph 3 of the first paragraph of the operative part of this Order in Council, only products required for outdoor maintenance, repair or construction may be sold to customers;

THAT, in a big-box store or a sales area referred to in subparagraph 12 of the first paragraph of the operative part of this Order in Council,
(1) only products usually sold in one of the businesses referred to in any of subparagraphs 1 to 7 of the first paragraph of the operative part of this Order in Council may be accessible or sold to customers, which excludes toys, clothing, books, electronic devices, decorative items, cookware and household appliances;

(2) the third and fourth paragraphs of the operative part of this Order in Council apply to pharmacy and hardware products offered to customers;

THAT the customers of a shopping centre be allowed to travel through the common areas of the centre only to access directly a business referred to in any of subparagraphs 1 to 13 of the first paragraph of the operative part, and other premises whose activities are not suspended;

THAT that suspension not prevent e-commerce or any other form of distance commerce where products are delivered to customers;

THAT pick-up, in a retail commercial establishment or curbside, of purchases made remotely be limited to products that may be sold under this Order in Council;

THAT that suspension also not prevent the continuation, in a retail commercial establishment, of computer and electronic equipment repair services, sports and outdoor recreational equipment repair and rental services, and tool rental services;

THAT this Order in Council not operate to prevent the supply of essential goods and services, in an emergency context or following a disaster, or the provision of care or health services or social services;

THAT the fourth and fifth paragraphs of the operative part of Ministerial Order 2020-096 dated 25 November 2020 be revoked;

THAT the Minister of Health and Social Services be empowered to order any modification or clarification of the measures provided for in this Order in Council;

THAT this Order in Council take effect from 25 December 2020.