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

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WHEREAS the World Health Organization declared a COVID-19 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 real and grave threat to the health of the population that requires the immediate application of certain measures provided for in section 123 of the Act;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020, the Government declared a public health emergency in all of the territory of Québec for a period of 10 days;


WHEREAS Order in Council 223-2020 dated 24 March 2020 orders in particular the suspension of all activity carried on in work environments, except for work environments that provide the priority services listed in the Schedule to that Order in Council;

WHEREAS, by Orders in Council 500-2020 dated 1 May 2020 and 505-2020 dated 6 May 2020, the Government lifted the suspension applicable to certain activities carried on in work environments under Order in Council 223-2020 dated 24 March 2020;

WHEREAS during the public health emergency, despite any provisions to the contrary, the Government or the Minister of Health and Social Services, if she has been so empowered, may, without delay and without further formality, take any measure 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 the current COVID-19 pandemic situation makes it possible to relax certain measures taken to protect the health of the population while maintaining certain measures necessary to continue to protect it;
IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of Health and Social Services;

THAT the suspension applicable to activities carried on in work environments under Order in Council 223-2020 dated 24 March 2020, amended by Orders in Council 500-2020 dated 1 May 2020 and 505-2020 dated 6 May 2020, be lifted with regard to work environments that offer outdoor, recreational or individual sports activities to the public, contact-free, conducted outside and in an unstructured manner, provided that

(1) those activities are not carried out in aquatic facilities, play structures or using training equipment available to the public;

(2) those activities take place during the course of the same day;

THAT the persons who take part in an activity referred to in the preceding paragraph be required to comply with the rules applicable to authorized outdoor assemblies in accordance with paragraph 4 of the first dash of the third paragraph in the operative part of Order in Council 222-2020 dated 20 March 2020;


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 20 May 2020.