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 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 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 and took certain measures to protect the health of the population;


WHEREAS the latter Order in Council provides that the measures provided for by Orders in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020, 222-2020 dated 20 March 2020,

WHEREAS Order in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020 ordered in particular the suspension of the educational and instructional services provided by educational institutions;

WHEREAS Order in Council 223-2020 dated 24 March 2020 ordered in particular the suspension of all activity carried on in work environments, except with respect to work environments providing the priority services listed in the Schedule to the Order in Council;


WHEREAS, by Orders in Council 505-2020 dated 6 May 2020, 540-2020 dated 20 May 2020 and 566-2020 dated 27 May 2020, the Government lifted the suspension applicable to certain educational and instructional services provided by educational institutions under Order in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020 and ordered that educational support
services be organized and provided to certain students, save exceptions for the territory of the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal;

WHEREAS, by Ministerial Order 2020-034 dated 9 May 2020, the exceptions provided for by Order in Council 505-2020 dated 6 May 2020 for the territory of the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal also apply for the territory of the regional county municipality of Joliette;

WHEREAS, by Ministerial Order 2020-041 dated 30 May 2020, the measures and exceptions concerning the territory of the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal and the territory of the regional county municipality of Joliette also apply, as applicable, to the territory of Ville de L'Épiphanie for the purposes of Order in Council 566-2020 dated 27 May 2020 and Division I of the Schedule to Order in Council 505-2020 dated 6 May 2020, amended by Ministerial Orders 2020-034 dated 9 May 2020 and 2020-039 dated 22 May 2020 and by Order in Council 566-2020 dated 27 May 2020;

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 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 some of the measures necessary to continue that protection;

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

THAT educational support services be organized and provided by the school boards and private educational institutions to the following students, identified by their educational institution, provided their number is limited to 10 per group:

(1) elementary level students having difficulties learning and enrolled in an educational institution situated in the territory of the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, the territory of the regional county municipality of Joliette or the territory of Ville de L'Épiphanie, and

(2) secondary level students having difficulties learning;

THAT the suspension applicable to the 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, 505-2020 dated 6 May 2020, 530-2020 dated 19 May 2020,
539-2020 and 540-2020 dated 20 May 2020 and 566-2020 dated 27 May 2020, be lifted with respect to school boards and private educational institutions, to the extent required for the purposes of providing the educational support services provided for by this Order in Council;


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

THAT this Order in Council take effect on 8 June 2020.