

MEMO



COLLÈGE BORÉAL
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TO: Boréal staff and community members

FROM: Michel Doucet, Vice-president – Corporate Services

DATE: Tuesday, December 22, 2020

SUBJECT: COVID-19: Important reminders before the holiday season

Good morning,

The holiday season is fast approaching, and this year, it's more important than ever to take action to protect yourself from COVID-19 and limit its spread. So, I'm writing with some important reminders to ensure a *COVID-safe* holiday break (and start to the New Year):

- stay informed about the current situation of COVID-19 in your area and local public health guidelines;
- limit close contact and face-to-face interactions with people outside of your household;
- keep two metres of physical distance from others;
- wear a face covering if physical distancing cannot be maintained;
- wash your hands thoroughly and regularly;
- avoid travel if possible (if you must travel, try to reduce your number of close contacts for the two weeks after you return); and
- if you are sick, stay home and get tested.

As you know, a **strict Provincewide Shutdown will begin on December 26th**. The restrictions will remain in effect until January 9th for Northern Ontario and until January 23rd for regions in Southern Ontario. While Collège Boréal facilities (campuses and sites) will remain closed during the shutdown, employees will continue to work remotely. Courses for the Winter Semester will begin on Monday, January 11th, via Zoom. A memo to the faculty from the Office of the Vice-President of Academics will follow.

To minimize groupings of individuals and physical contact onsite, the resumption of in-person learning as well as workplace activities will take place gradually, depending on local public health recommendations and government directives. I thank you for your understanding and patience in this regard.

To learn what public health measures are in place in your community, visit [Ontario.ca/covidresponse](https://ontario.ca/covidresponse).

I also want to thank you for your continued efforts in complying with public health guidelines. Your cooperation influence local rates of COVID-19 infections. Our local case rates in turn impact the ongoing operations of our local institutions, businesses and services, and our health care system.

The holiday season may be a little different this year, but I hope you can take this time to rest and recharge your batteries. Wishing you all the best this holiday season and much happiness and health in New Year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michel Doucet', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michel Doucet