



Fall 2021 Continuity of Education Plan

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Mohawk College Continuity of Education Plans

Fall 2021

Introduction & Background

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mohawk College closed its campuses to the public on March 14, 2020 and suspended all classes for a one-week period. During that period, the college transitioned all eligible courses to a remote/virtual delivery environment in order to support the completion of the Winter 2020 semester and has engaged in a combination of remote/virtual learning and in-person delivery for the last 18 months.

The college continues to prioritize the protection of its students, faculty, staff and community through the implementation of measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 while continuing to ensure the delivery of a quality educational experience.

Although the majority of programs are able to continue through remote/virtual delivery of lecture-based program components, all required face-to-face deliveries for the Fall 2021 semester (e.g. labs, simulations, assessments, etc.) will be delivered on campus.

The following document outlines the delivery plans for students in programs requiring in-person components and our plans for a continued controlled reopening of campus this fall. Mohawk College continues to work with Hamilton Public Health to ensure the college is aligned to Public Health Standards. It is also important to note that this plan is a living document that will be adjusted as needed based on the changing reality of the pandemic.

Assumptions & Principles

The following list of assumptions and guiding principles provided a framework for the college's planning for a partial reopening:

Assumptions

- COVID-19 will continue to be a threat to our community and operations even with vaccines broadly available.
- National, provincial and/or local governments (including health authorities) will establish risk levels and provide standards regarding their requirements and approach to the ongoing COVID-19 situation.
- At a minimum, a Fall 2021 reopening plan will ensure strict adherence to all government and Public Health requirements and guidelines.
- Mohawk College has implemented a vaccination policy statement for access to all campuses to take effect for staff, faculty and students beginning September 7, 2021.

Principles

- The health, safety and well-being of our community is our top priority.
- We will continue to provide a quality learning experience for our students throughout the duration of the pandemic.
- The plan will be developed and modified in consultation with our local Public Health Authority.
- The plan will be developed in consultation and approval of the college's Emergency Response Incident Command Group (ICG).
- All program protocols will incorporate sector-specific considerations (e.g., Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), signage, physical distancing, limited contact, etc.) as appropriate.
- The plan will include consideration of all college stakeholder groups (including students, employees, industry and community partners).
- The plan will include an awareness/communications strategy to support all stakeholder groups.
- Return to Campus training will be offered for all employees and students. Employees will access training through MyMohawk, and students through MyCanvas.
- The college will maintain a [Return to Campus webpage](#) for the latest information, including details on parking and the availability of campus services.
- We are committed to providing reliable, accurate messages about COVID-19, including COVID-19 related stigma (<https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/covid19-stigma-guide.pdf>) and anti-racism supports.
- We will ensure students have access to resources to support mental and physical health, anti-racism, and COVID-19 stigma supports; and accept responsibility in helping students mitigate social barriers to support student compliance with individual COVID-19 infection control practices.

Protocols for Access to College During Ontario Pandemic

Beginning in September, all Mohawk College campuses will be open to students and employees. While the campus is considered to be open, the college is limiting on campus activity.

To maintain appropriate on campus capacity limits as defined in approved Health and Safety Risk Assessments (HSRA's), managers will continue to monitor and must provide approval for employee on campus presence.

Cleaning and disinfecting of the college occurs on a daily basis.

Health Risk to Campus

In order to support the safety of and minimize risk to our students and staff, the following general measures have been established across the college.

- Mohawk College has made training available to employees to identify the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and how to report a suspected case (employee/student) per the Health Risk to College Community Procedure (see *Appendix A*).
- Any students, employees, visitors or contractors attempting to access campus will complete a pre-screening using our health assessment tool. Upon successful completion of the COVID-19 screening tool, a mask and hand disinfecting will be required by security before access to campus is allowed. Anyone with an unsuccessful screening assessment will not be granted access to campus and will be referred to the Provincial Health Assessment Portal.
- If an individual is feeling unwell, they will be asked to not come to campus. If an individual becomes ill on campus, Security will assist the individual including, if warranted, a call to EMS.
- The college will follow Provincial regulations and Public Health guidelines in the reopening of in-person services (food, student services, gym).
- Employees and students who have tested positive for COVID-19 or have had symptoms that are consistent with the virus are asked to complete an online COVID-19 self disclosure form. This information will be used to help track exposure, in collaboration with local Public Health.
- Tracking of individuals on campus will be maintained by Security, Occupational Health and Safety and Student Wellness to manage any suspected outbreak.
- Prior to students and employees returning to campus, the college will follow directions from the Ministry of Health and local Public Health on the testing direction and clearance for a positive case.
- Mohawk College will meet the requirements of a Designated Learning Institution (DLI), in addition to related Federal requirements. These are in accordance with the directives of the Public Health Institutional Requirements for International Students in Ontario Attestation for as long as it appears on the federal list of designated institutions.

Access to Campus Protocol

- Prior to returning to campus, each affected area will complete a COVID-19 Health and Safety Risk Assessment (see *Appendix B*). The risk assessment is used to identify and implement appropriate COVID-19 risk mitigation measures (engineered controls, administrative controls, PPE, etc.). This standardized assessment is completed in collaboration with Occupational Health and Safety, departmental managers and front-line staff. All recommended measures will be in place prior to the return of students to campus.
- Communication to all affected individuals (students and employees) will occur by various communication channels (email, Learning Management System) advising them of what to expect prior to coming to campus and during their time on campus.
- Return to campus training will be made available to employees prior to their arriving on campus.
- Prior to each arrival at the college, the Health Screening Questionnaire must be completed via the Mohawk College Safety Application or directly with a Security Guard. The Health Screening Questionnaire will be updated as per Public Health guidelines.

- Effective September 7, 2021 anyone coming to a Mohawk College campus will be required to show proof of vaccination against COVID-19 by submitting their vaccine receipt to the college. There is a process in place for those who are eligible for an exemption for medical, religion/creed, or other reasons. Individuals who receive an exemption for medical reasons will be required to complete regular rapid antigen testing as documented in the Mohawk College COVID19 Vaccination Policy Statement. As directed by the Province of Ontario in their announcement on August 17, 2021, individuals who receive an exemption for any reason other than medical will be required to complete an education program and complete regular rapid antigen testing. Vaccine status verification and tracking has been integrated into the features of the Mohawk College Safety Application.
- Access to the college will occur through restricted access points at each of the college's campuses:
 - Fennell Campus
 - Stoney Creek
 - Institute for Applied Health Sciences (IAHS) on the McMaster University campus
 - Centre for Aviation Technology at the Hamilton International Airport
- Students attending in-person study at partner campuses will follow the established protocols for those institutions. These include:
 - Wentworth Heights
 - Six Nations Polytechnic
 - City School locations
 - Community Employment Services (163 Centennial Parkway)
- For the most up to date information regarding Mohawk's policy statement and procedures for vaccines, students, staff and faculty are encouraged to regularly visit the college's [COVID-19 resource page](#).
- Upon arrival individuals must apply hand sanitizer and check in with security to ensure that they have completed their daily health screening and verified their vaccine status. While on campus, and in accordance with Ontario Public Health, it is expected that individuals maintain a distance of six feet from each other. Individuals will be expected to wear a college issued medical mask that covers their nose, mouth and chin during their time at the college. When physical distancing is not possible, the college will establish additional PPE requirements for each program delivery and ensure that the appropriate PPE is available to students and employees.
- Proper hygiene guidelines will be communicated including proper hand washing, covering mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, avoidance of face touching and proper hand washing after coughing or sneezing.
- Program times will be staggered to offer physical distancing and classrooms will be allocated in compliance with local Public Health protocols.
- Students will have the opportunity to borrow a laptop from Mohawk College for the Fall semester if they otherwise do not have access to technology. Laptops will be available on a first come, first served basis at the Service Desk in C120 at the Fennell campus.
- There will be limited food and retail services resuming this fall in a modified format i.e. limited sit-down service in on-campus food venues (take-out only), no buffet style service, etc. to ensure social distancing protocols on campus and at the residence. Food services at Mohawk are provided by two vendors: a third-party company and the Mohawk Student Association. All offerings are limited and protocols have been developed in consultation with the college and the food service management company, in alignment with the local Public Health Authority recommendations. For example, seating is limited, signage encourages distancing in any line-up, protective barriers have been installed, personal disinfecting and additional cleaning measures are in place, and most food is grab and go.

Residence at Mohawk College

Mohawk College residence is owned by a private provider. This provider has been working with the College and Public Health in developing guidelines and recommendations for occupancy for Fall 2021. Aligned with Hamilton Public Health guidance to increase student numbers in residence and to allow for student life activities, we have announced that students must be fully vaccinated to reside in residence (with allowable exemptions under the Ontario Human Rights Code (OHRC)). Occupancy will constitute 95% of the usual full capacity, allowing for rooms for isolation purposes.

Athletics

The David Braley Athletic and Recreation Centre (DBARC) will be open to students and employees beginning in Fall 2021 following both provincial and local Public Health guidelines. The Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) has resumed varsity sports for the Fall 2021 semester with plans for competitive play to resume. Mohawk College has mandated vaccinations for varsity athletes, and all athletes, coaches and staff will follow public health sport protocols.

International Learners

Mohawk College will follow direction from Health Canada requiring that criteria be demonstrated as part of plans for institutions accepting students from outside Canada, and that both provincial and local public health authorities have a role in deeming institutions ready (*see Appendix C for criteria*).

A key component of this plan is that Mohawk College will play a role in supporting international students to correctly undertake their quarantine period upon arrival in Ontario.

Mohawk College will provide support for students needing transportation from the airport to their quarantine or location and will provide regular check in on those students to ensure they complete the required 14-day quarantine. Any student showing symptoms during this period will be asked to report symptoms to the College and will be asked to undertake COVID-19 testing.

For travellers who are not exempted from quarantine, the federal government requires the day 8 test and the Ontario government requires that Mohawk College verify the results of the day 8 test, as part of the DLI attestation.

As recommended in “The Guiding Principles for Hosting International Students” document shared by Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan), Mohawk College has developed an institutional plan that supports the safe return and arrival of international students. The plan is divided into three areas of focus; pre-arrival, self-isolation, and commencing studies on campus.

Throughout the pre-arrival phase students will have received communication and participated in webinars that give clear direction on the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and public health requirements for them to enter Canada safely and to begin their period of isolation. To support students and co-arriving immediate family members further, Mohawk College will be working with COVID Safe Canada from August 1st to September 30th to support the arrivals of students in Canada and Hamilton. This support will be accessed via the Mohawk iCent App. This program supports new and returning students, as well as students who are studying from their home countries. This will allow Mohawk College and students to adhere to the COVID-19 protocols outlined by the regional public health units as well as the provincial and federal government. In conjunction with Mohawk College, this program will provide students guidance on appropriate quarantine and self-isolation as well as support in accessing food, accommodation and access to information on safety essentials. We will be able to track students' arrival, travel and isolation plans as well as provide critical updates to students on public health advisories and community supports. The iCent app will request daily updates from quarantine students seeking affirmation that they are symptom free. Once the self-isolation period is complete, the College has created a protocol for safe return to campus and

commencement of studies. Students requiring financial support for the purpose of COVID-19 testing or other quarantine related costs will have access to Mohawk College's emergency bursary fund.

International students and any co-arriving immediate family members are required to download the Government of Canada's **ArriveCAN** application prior to arrival at the border and complete the information required in order to be eligible for exemptions.

Mohawk College will meet the requirements of a Designated Learning Institution, in accordance with the directives of the Public Health Institutional Requirements for International Students in Ontario attestation for as long as it appears on the federal list of designated institutions.

Health and Safety Risk Assessments

The college established a risk assessment process to determine the safety protocols and requirements for all on campus activities.

Prior to returning to campus, each affected area completed a COVID-19 risk assessment. The risk assessments are used to identify and implement appropriate COVID-19 risk mitigation measures (engineered controls, administrative controls, personal protective equipment).

Risk assessments included the following three stages:

1. Identification of COVID-19 risks
2. Identification of infection prevention and control measures
3. Evaluation of the risks associated with activities planned for the space.

Each assessment results in the creation of a COVID-19 prevention plan that outlines the required safety protocols for on campus activities in the corresponding space.

Reviewing Risks and Updating Safety Measures

Mohawk College's Incident Command Group (ICG) regularly reviews plans, policies, procedures and protocols. ICG members represent all areas of the college and are tasked with bringing updates and operational issues forward for review and consideration.

The Mohawk College Health & Safety Team along with Student Wellness, monitor and review Ministry of Health and other applicable regional health guidance daily to ensure protocols are up to date. This team flags any new risks for discussion with the ICG. Safety plans are kept up to date. Changes to procedures or protocols are communicated to all students and staff.

The College also consults with stakeholders when considering changes or enhancements to safety plans. This includes the Joint Health & Safety Committee (JHSC) and union leadership.

The COVID-19 Employee Resources page and Mohawk College COVID-19 webpage are regularly updated and communicated to the college community.

Hamilton Public Health continues to work proactively with the college through regular planning calls. Public Health has reviewed and provided feedback on a number of COVID-19 related plans, policies and programs.

Fall 2021 Continuity of Education Strategy

The college plans to offer a number of in-person programs and courses through our regular post-secondary, apprenticeship and continuing education streams across all campuses for the fall term. In the event of a

disruption to in-person learning, the college has prepared a set of guiding principles to ensure the continuity of all academic programming as well as supports for affected students.

Guiding Principles

- The health, safety and well-being of our community is our top priority.
- Program delivery planning decision will align with all public health protocols and regulations.
- Allowable on-campus activity will be prioritized and incremental.
- Flexibility in planning and scheduling will be maintained to allow for adaption to changing regulations and restrictions.

Over the course of the pandemic, the college has employed multiple strategies to ensure the continued delivery of quality education that has kept our learners on track to graduation, promoted flexibility and supported our commitments to our students, community and partners. In the event of any future disruptions, the college would continue to use this highly effective and flexible approach.

The college's ERP has served as both the framework and guideline for establishing an effective and integrated approach to the planning, delivery and implementation required for effective decision making and communication over the course of this pandemic. The strong infrastructure of our established emergency management framework has allowed Mohawk to anticipate needs and to change direction when required. To support this framework, the college has engaged collaborative and cross-functional working groups within the Incident Management System, each with a defined purpose and designated reporting structure. An Academic and Non-Academic Task Force has been established for the specific purpose of conducting scenario planning for potential future disruptions to in-person learning and successfully navigated the contingency and continuity planning required during the provincial stay-at-home order that affected our Winter 2021 semester.

The college has utilized a scenario planning strategy to identify potential outcomes with regard to Public Health policies and government restrictions that could impact future operations and academic deliveries. This planning has included analysis by the Academic areas to anticipate potential impacts and delivering strategies to mitigate potential risk. This approach has allowed the college to respond quickly, effectively and in a coordinated manner regardless of the circumstances.

Through the leadership and guidance of the Academic Task Force, academic areas have been awarded the confidence and flexibility to develop plans and mitigate risks at a program level to ensure continuity for our learners over the course of the last 18 months.

Continuity Strategies

All planning undertaken since the beginning of the pandemic has been underpinned by the fundamental principle of the continued success of our students, both academically and in the wraparound supports we offer. In the event of a disruption to in-person learning for the Fall 2021 semester, the college has identified the following strategies, contingencies and mitigation tactics based on our practices over the past 18-months to ensure the continuity of education for our learners:

- Risks associated with a full or partial disruption at a program-level will be identified and a robust, yet flexible, framework for contingency planning will ensure that all learners are able to complete their programs of study.
- Preventative planning - all content that can be, will be delivered online.

- In the event of a large-scale disruption, the college would seek approval to continue offering all in-person programming deemed essential and to transition all non-essential programming back to remote delivery if required.
- Delivery modifications:
 - The college will support Program of Study (POS) changes as required to support program completion should in-person learning be disrupted while ensuring the delivery of all learning outcomes
 - Scheduling will align to capacity and physical distancing requirements
- Changes to operating hours will be implemented as required to accommodate delivery changes to programming and services.
- The college will continue to support students who may be required to miss time due to illness.
- Program exceptions will be made as required due to external standards, field placements/clinical etc.
- Modifications will be made to the exam schedule as required to accommodate any potential schedule disruptions.
- Consideration will be given to modifying the academic sessional dates in the event of a large-scale disruption.
- All planning, delivery modifications or changes to course schedules will be supported by a robust communications strategy for all students at both a college and program level.

Applied Research

Mohawk College operates a number of applied research labs. These labs work with local industrial partners to explore and support a number of functions including adoption of emerging technologies. In addition, these labs offer experiential learning opportunities to many of our students. The applied research labs also support the industrial research and development activities of a large number of industrial partners, and as such qualify for re-opening under the definition above. The expanded re-opening of these labs is therefore essential for the continuation of our academic partnerships and furthering our college/industry partnerships.

In preparation for the expanded re-opening of the Applied Research labs, Hazard Risk Assessments have been completed for all labs. All students and staff will comply with all college security and safety protocols, including pre-screening and wearing masks. PPE will be provided in all lab areas which meet, or exceed, college guidelines. Access to labs will be limited to authorized staff and students, with maximum capacities established to meet or exceed social distancing requirements. Increased cleaning protocols will be in place in all high touch areas, including specific protocols for shared lab equipment.

Placements (Co-op, Unpaid)

In July of 2021, the college updated its Student Placement COVID-19 procedures after receiving information from some of our community partners that students participating in onsite placements are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to participate.

The college communicated the importance of understanding that a student's ability to participate in onsite student placements may be restricted and/or limited if they are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19. In addition, not fulfilling vaccination requirements may impact a student's ability to complete program requirements and may result in financial or academic implications.

Where COVID-19 vaccinations have been identified as a condition of participation in onsite placement activities by community partners, students will be required to provide proof of vaccination before beginning a placement.

Mohawk continues to maintain its standard processes when evaluating placement activities, both paid and non-paid, to meet the learning requirements of students completing their programs of study.

1. Mohawk College placement staff will review and document all work-integrated-learning arrangements in collaboration with employers and students.
2. Students must be in full agreement with the employer placement opportunity, including expectations, duties, and responsibilities and safety requirements, irrespective of the placement being virtual or on-site.
3. Employers must demonstrate that health and safety protocols relative to COVID-19 are in place to support the student placement, and where feasible, permit students to work remotely.
4. A student placement (co-op or unpaid) will only be approved, should the employer meet the necessary health and safety protocols relative to COVID-19 and provide the appropriate PPE for the student, where applicable.
5. Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) and liability insurance coverage for students, whether working on-site or remotely, is to be secured either through the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU), through the employer, or via private insurance provider.
6. Students are made aware that they are able to leave the placement if they do not feel safe.

Emergency Resources

Mohawk Security Services is on campus 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to support the college community in the event of an emergency. Mohawk College has a suite of Emergency Response Procedures that fall under our Emergency Response Policy. We are continually working to improve and perfect these procedures.

Emergency Directory

Police, Fire, Medical	
From any phone	911
College Emergency Services (24 Hours)	
Mohawk Security Services	905-575-2003 905-574-5111
Fennell and Stoney Creek Campuses	55 (from college phones)
Institute for Applied Health Sciences at McMaster (McMaster Security)	88 (from university phones)
Security Desks (for non-emergencies)	
Fennell Campus	905-575-2003
Stoney Creek Campus	905-575-1212 ext. 5035
Institute for Applied Health Sciences at McMaster (McMaster)	905-525-9140 ext. 24281
Campus Closure Line	

For up-to-date messages on the status of the college campuses.
Emergency closures are governed by [Campus/College Emergency Closure Procedure ERP803](#)

905-575-2444

Emergency Response Plan

Mohawk College is committed to providing the safest possible environment for students, employees and the public. The Mohawk College Emergency Response Plan (ERP) has been designed to assist in the management of all incidents and emergencies affecting the campus. The plan takes an “all hazards” risk mitigation approach to any potential emergency that involves employees, students, and the public. The plan outlines the responsibilities for decision making during the emergency management process.

For a copy of Mohawk's ERP, please email: security@mohawkcollege.ca

Appendix A – Health Risk to the College Community Procedure

** Please note: The Health Risk to the College Community Procedure is being adopted as part of the college's pandemic response to risks or potential risks associated with COVID-19.*



Health Risk to the College Community Procedure

Mohawk College is committed to responding effectively to extraordinary situations involving health risks that could potentially have adverse effects on the Mohawk College community. This procedure outlines an approved approach for responding to risks or potential risks associated with diseases of public health significance, in order to prevent the spread of communicable diseases to others.

1. Application and Scope

This procedure applies to diseases of public health significance and is not intended to address a pandemic. A pandemic is an infectious disease outbreak on a large scale, with spread of contagion provincially, nationally or globally and is dealt with at the direction of Public Health and in accordance with the College's [Pandemic Plan](#). In consultation and partnership with Public Health, the following procedure applies to all Mohawk College campuses including the Institute for Applied Health Sciences (IAHS).

2. Definitions

“Communicable Disease” refers to an illness affecting humans that is caused by an organism or microorganism and is transmitted directly or indirectly from an infected person, an animal or the environment to a susceptible person.

“Direct Contact Transmission” occurs when pathogens are transferred directly from an infected person.

“Indirect Contact Transmission” involves the transfer of pathogens from a contaminated intermediate source (ex. Door handle, table surface, and object), contaminated instruments or hands.

“Diseases of Public Health Significance” are communicable diseases that are defined by the Health Protection and Promotion Act, Ontario Regulation 135/18 as reportable. These do not include any disease that would not be likely to be transmitted during the course of a typical day on campus. Under the Act, the College is required to notify the Medical Officer of Health of any suspected cases of reportable diseases involving staff and students. This list is available on the city of Hamilton's website on the [Reportable Infectious Diseases](#) page.

3. Procedures for Confirmed or Suspected Cases of Communicable Disease

In all circumstances of suspected or confirmed cases of a communicable disease, the College will receive direction from Public Health. Public Health will work collaboratively with the College to ensure compliance with precautions that are specified as per the procedures below that would prevent secondary transmission of disease:

1. Where an employee or student suspects that they may be infected with a communicable disease, they must self-report it to the Director of Student Wellness Initiatives as soon as possible in accordance with the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* of Ontario.
2. The employee or student will be directed to immediately seek off-site medical attention from their family doctor or emergency medical clinic as appropriate. The employee or student should be advised to avoid

public transportation and as applicable, be advised to use appropriate personal protective equipment to reduce the risk of transmission of communicable disease.

3. The employee or student must remain off-campus until a doctor's note is obtained indicating that the individual is free of communicable disease and/or is non-infectious before returning to the college.
 - Employees must report their absence in accordance to departmental procedures.
 - Students will provide a doctor's note to the Director of Student Wellness Initiatives (or designate) who will inform other parties as appropriate.
4. In situations where a communicable disease case is confirmed, Public Health will contact the College. Public Health should be connected with the Director of Student Wellness Initiatives (or designate) who will receive direction on appropriate next steps. Where the confirmed case involves an employee, the Director of Student Wellness Initiatives (or designate) will triage Public Health to the Occupational Health and Safety Consultant (or designate) as required.
 - In situations involving employees (excluding IAHS campus) where Public Health does not contact the College, or, where the College becomes aware of a suspected or confirmed case of communicable disease, the Occupational Health and Safety Consultant (or designate) will contact Public Health for consultation.
 - In situations involving students where Public Health does not contact the College, or, where the College becomes aware of a suspected or confirmed case of communicable disease, the Director of Student Wellness Initiatives (or designate) will contact Public Health for consultation.
 - The Director of the McMaster Student Wellness Centre (or designate) and the Director of Student Wellness Initiatives (or designate) will communicate any reportable communicable diseases related to the IAHS campus.

4. Health Risks Involving Third Parties

For threats that originate from or extend to the community external to the College, the Director of Student Wellness Initiatives (or designate) will receive direction from Public Health and facilitate information for the College and comply with any precautions and/or procedures that are specified. If the health risk involves an employee, the Director of Student Wellness Initiatives (or designate) will triage Public Health to the Occupational Health and Safety Consultant (or designate) as required.

5. Student Participation in Clinical and Field Placements

Students enrolled in specific programs or courses may participate in care of patients with communicable diseases as a part of fulfilling academic requirements. The College and partnering institutions are responsible for ensuring that students are appropriately screened and instructed in infection control as it relates to communicable diseases.

6. Communication

Depending on the severity of the risk to the College community, the College's Emergency Response Plan (ERP) may be activated to develop a College response and recovery plan. The College will follow the lead of Public Health and will give students and employees information as appropriate.

7. Health Promotion and Education

Mohawk College will continue to educate the college community on a variety of health related topics including any potential emerging health risk issues to emphasize the need to be vigilant in regards to infection control.

8. Attachments

Attachment 1- Contact Information

9. Specific Links

CS-1401-1979 Health and Safety Policy

CS-1403-2008 Emergency Response Policy

ERP802 Internal Crisis Communication Procedure

ERP803 College/Campus Emergency Closure Procedure

[Mohawk College Emergency Response Plan](#)

Contact Information

Public Health Services
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Standard Prevention Plans for Classrooms and Labs

LEARNING & WORKING SAFELY TOGETHER

» COVID-19 Prevention Plans

			
<h3>Physical Distancing</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students to practice physical distancing and work independently when possible. • Ensure the space has been optimized to maximize physical distancing within the space. • If students are required to work in groups or pairs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Limit the size of the group to fewest possible participants. ◦ Divide students up into distinct groups or cohorts that stay together during the semester and reduce interaction between different groups when possible. • Assign seating, work areas and equipment where applicable. • Entrance and exit signs will be posted on the doors. 	<h3>PPE required for Occupants</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face masks and eye protection (provided) must be worn at all times. • Gloves for safe disinfectant use will be provided. • Refer to proper donning and doffing of PPE poster for information on how to apply and remove PPE without risking infection. 	<h3>Personal Hygiene</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand wash or sanitize every time you enter and leave the space. • Sharing of items to be limited where possible with tools and equipment being assigned to students or specific groups of students. • Perform inventory check at regular intervals of opened hand sanitizer, soap and water, or effective disinfectant material to ensure availability of use. 	<h3>Cleaning Procedure</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students to disinfect their work areas/contact areas (i.e. benches, tools, touch points on equipment, etc.) before and after each use in class. • Alcohol based disinfecting solution/ disposable wipes and gloves provided.

Additional Information

- Eating or drinking is prohibited in all learning spaces.
- Practice good respiratory hygiene by covering your cough.
- PPE, hand sanitizer, gloves, and disinfectant to be supplied by the college.
- All students are to review the College's COVID-19 training materials.
- Random checks of compliance to the COVID-19 prevention plans will occur throughout the semester.

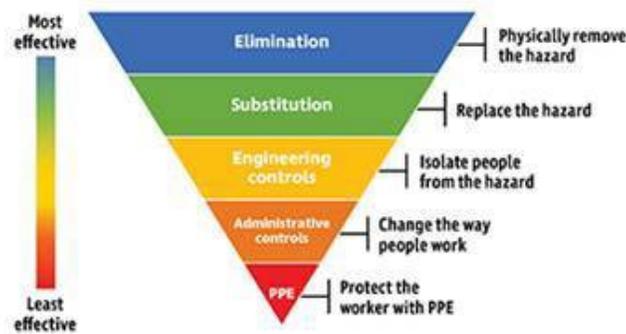
For more information, please visit hamilton.ca/public-health
 Questions or comments? questions@mohawkcollege.ca



FUTURE READY

July 2021

NIOSH HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS



Engineering controls involve the use of physical means and systems to reduce the exposure to a hazard. In workplaces where they are appropriate, these types of controls reduce exposure to hazards without relying on human behaviour and are often designed to be effective with limited need for ongoing human interaction. These types of controls are also often the most cost-effective and easily sustained solutions over the long-term. Examples of engineering controls for Covid-19 include:

Engineering Controls

- The installation of modifications that provide a physical barrier between a worker and the source of a hazard such as "sneeze guards".
Physical barriers can be made of different materials, depending on the specific application, but are often made of plastic or acrylic to allow for cleaning. They can be applied between workers, between workers and clients or between a source and surface that is being protected from
- Other types of barriers that create isolation from a hazard source can also be used.

Administrative Controls

- Administrative controls generally correlate to the policy, procedure and work practice changes that can be introduced to reduce hazards to workers.
- Administrative controls require management decisions, workplace parties' awareness, observance and enforcement to be effective.
- Administrative controls can be established at the College-wide level through interim policies or at the individual worker level through changes to work practices.
- A wide range of administrative controls are recommended for mitigating the risk associated with COVID-19, due to the pervasive nature of the risk.
- Examples of these controls include:
 - Hand-hygiene – The single most effective means of reducing the risk of exposure and the risk of spread of a virus in a population is hand-hygiene. This practice requires strong promotion and adherence within the College community. Detailed hand-hygiene information is presented later in this document. In summary, hand-hygiene includes:
 - Frequent hand-washing with soap and water.
 - Frequent hand-sanitizing with an effective sanitizer, as an alternative to hand-washing.
 - Not touching your face (mouth, nose, eyes).
 - Cough etiquette – coughing and sneezing into your arm or sleeve rather than into your hands is more effective in controlling the spray plume from a cough or sneeze and also contributes to hand-hygiene.
 - Physical Distancing - Create distance between people by limiting the number of people in a given area at any one time. Current public health guidance promotes physical distancing requirements as a distance of 2m (6 ft.) between individuals. There are a wide range of strategies that are presented later in this document to support physical distancing practices.
 - Cleaning and disinfecting of high-touch surfaces and handwashing after contact with high-touch surfaces.

- Interim policies that diminish or eliminate.
- Ensuring that persons who are ill do not attend the campus or workplace and risk further spreading of the virus.
- Eliminating high-risk activities where the hazard cannot be controlled effectively through other means. This includes the cancellation of large gatherings and identifying the use of other means to address large group requirements.
- Introduction of a range of work practices that support and promote the above administrative controls.
- Awareness is a key element of administrative controls that influences the broad observance required for these types of controls.
- All typical means for communications within the workplace should be accessed to mount an appropriate level of awareness including posters, communiqués, signage, websites, instruction, training and written procedures.

Physical Distancing Measures

- Employees and students must ensure a minimum distance of 2 meters (6 feet) between themselves and others at all times.
- In order to accommodate physical distancing requirements, individuals must not be permitted to congregate in groups. This may result in alterations to how work spaces are set up, how activity would normally occur, or how college community members would normally interact and go about business.
- Where possible, a designated staff member should monitor adherence to physical distancing requirements on premise.
- The following steps can be taken to support adherence to physical distancing requirements:
 - Restrict the number of people on-site and where they are assigned to work.
 - Limit the number of people working in one space at the same time.
 - Stagger start times, breaks and lunch times.
 - Control site movement by limiting the potential for people to gather.
 - Add floor markings and barriers to manage traffic flow and physical distancing.
 - Minimize the number of people using each piece of equipment or technology in instances where sharing cannot be avoided.
 - Some activities may need to be relocated or rescheduled to enable social distancing.
 - Hold meetings virtually or in a large space, if meeting cannot be accommodated virtually.

Appendix C -
Federal Public Health Institutional Readiness Requirements for International Students

The following federal public health readiness requirements must be met for Designated Learning Institutions to welcome international students. These requirements are to be read in the context of the [Public Health Agency of Canada Guidance for Post-Secondary Institutions](#)

Overall Requirements	Pre-Arrival Requirements for Institutions	14-day Quarantine Requirements	Post-quarantine Requirements
<p>Institutions have acceptable plans in place for robust case management and outbreak response (https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/health-professionals/interim-guidance-cases-contacts.html) in their communities, and these plans meet the requirements of local and P/T public health guidelines.</p> <p>Institutions have protocols for notification of local and P/T authorities of:</p> <p>Any compliance issues within the 14-day mandatory quarantine period.</p> <p>Any cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection during the 14-day mandatory quarantine period.</p> <p>Public communications protocols have been established for COVID-19 outbreaks that may impact or implicate international students or their immediate family members.</p>	<p>Pre-arrival requirements are communicated to international students and their co-arriving immediate family <i>members in advance</i> of travel to Canada.</p> <p>As a best practice, international students and their co-arriving immediate family members are encouraged to download the Government of Canada’s ArriveCAN application prior to arrival at the border and complete the information required.</p> <p>Institutions provide appropriate transportation of international students and their co-arriving immediate family members to a 14-day quarantine location, consistent with Government of Canada recommendations (i.e. wearing a mask for onward domestic travel; travelling directly to place of quarantine);</p> <p>Mandatory 14-day quarantine by international students and co-arriving immediate family members is provided at:</p> <p>the institution; or</p> <p>a private quarantine location that meets the requirements set out under 14-Day Quarantine Requirements, with arrangements made prior to arrival and assessed to be acceptable by the Government of Canada at the time and point of entry.</p>	<p>Institutions have developed and implemented restart plans that include quarantine arrangements for international students and co-arriving immediate family members that support the minimum requirements listed below.</p> <p>International students and co-arriving immediate family members are responsible for on-going self-monitoring and assessment of COVID-19 symptoms.</p> <p>As a best practice, the ArriveCAN application will be used by international students and co-arriving family members within 48 hours after arrival in Canada, and for their daily symptom reporting;</p> <p>Appropriate individual accommodation options for the 14-day quarantine period are provided consistent with current Orders in Council under the <i>Quarantine Act</i> and guidelines of the Government of Canada, as well as the requirements of the institution’s local and provincial/territorial public health authorities:</p> <p>Confirmation that students are symptom free, and have a suitable isolation plan ensuring they will not be staying with vulnerable populations or living in a communal or group setting, and will have access to the necessities of life;</p> <p>Support for all quarantined individuals throughout the 14-day quarantine period, including but not limited to food, medical care and COVID-19 infection control information and training;</p> <p>Regular and robust institutional monitoring of quarantined individuals throughout the 14-day quarantine period for COVID-19 symptoms, general well-being, compliance with quarantine requirements, with emphasis on individual COVID-19 infection control practices;</p> <p>Promotion of reliable, accurate messages about COVID-19, including messaging around COVID-19 related stigma (https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/covid19-stigma-guide.pdf) and anti-racisms supports; and</p> <p>Mitigation of social barriers to support student compliance with individual COVID-19 infection control practices.</p>	<p>Institutions will continue to support international students and immediate family members after completion of their 14-day quarantine period.</p> <p>This includes offering mental and physical health supports, anti-racism and COVID-19 stigma supports, and mitigation of social barriers to support student compliance with individual COVID-19 infection control practices.</p>