

## **NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release: July 15, 2021

## Consider the Risks Before Gathering With People You do Not Live With

NIPISSING & PARRY SOUND, ON – As the province moves into Step 3 of Ontario's Roadmap to Reopen tomorrow, the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit is reminding the public to continue to follow public health measures and consider the risk to yourself and the people you live with, before attending gatherings with people you do not live with.

"The move to Step 3 is an exciting time with new opportunities for activities that we want to keep open longterm. Through experience, we know how quickly the COVID-19 situation can change. It is important that everyone evaluates the risks before attending a gathering," explains Dr. Jim Chirico, Medical Officer of Health. "This means thinking about where you are going, who you are going to be with and really consider the risk to those who are unable to be vaccinated or are not fully vaccinated."

It is important that the public continue to wear a face covering indoors and practice physical distancing with people they do not live with, get fully vaccinated, wash their hands often and if they have symptoms, stay home and arrange to be tested for COVID-19.

Step 3 offers opportunities for new social activities such as:

- Outdoor social gatherings and organized public events with up to 100 people with limited exceptions;
- Indoor social gatherings and organized public events with up to 25 people;
- Indoor dining permitted with no limits on the number of patrons per table with physical distancing and other restrictions still in effect;
- Cinemas, concert, theatres, and other performing arts venues allowed to open with capacity limits.

Review Ontario's Roadmap to Reopen for a more detailed summary of what can open in Stage 3.

For more information on the local COVID-19 situation visit <u>myhealthunit.ca/COVID-19</u>.

## **Media Inquiries:**

-30-

Call Toll Free: 1-800-563-2808

Alex McDermid, Public Relations Specialist P: <u>705-474-1400</u>, ext. 5221 or <u>1-800-563-2808</u> E: <u>communications@healthu</u>nit.ca

Your lifetime partner in healthy living. Votre partenaire à vie pour vivre en santé. **my**healthunit**.ca** 

- 345 Oak Street West,
  North Bay, ON P1B 2T2
  705-474-1400
- 705-474-8252
- 70 Joseph Street, Unit 302 Parry Sound, ON P2A 2G5 705-746-5801
- 705-746-2711