

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Dr. Chirico Revokes Class Order Under Section 22 of the Ontario Health Protection and Promotion Act

NIPISSING & PARRY SOUND, ON – Effective immediately, the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit’s (Health Unit) Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Jim Chirico, is revoking the Class Order under Section 22 of the Ontario Health Protection and Promotion Act. The Class Order came into effect on December 24, 2020.

“We have reached a time in the pandemic when the Class Order no longer reflects the management of high risk contacts, now that most of the population is immunized against COVID-19,” explains Dr. Chirico. “Revoking the Class Order represents how far we have come and how important immunizations have been in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Throughout the pandemic, the vast majority of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 or were close contacts of a case have willingly self-isolated. No charges have been laid under the Class Order.

“It is important to recognize how well individuals who tested positive and close contacts have followed the self-isolation requirements throughout the pandemic,” states Dr. Chirico. “Without this compliance I don’t know what our local situation would have been.”

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 or those who are identified as unvaccinated or symptomatic close contacts are still required to self-isolate. Individuals who do not comply can still face individual Orders under Section 22; however to date, no instances have required this type of action.

For more information on the local COVID-19 situation, visit [myhealthunit.ca/COVID-19](https://myhealthunit.ca/COVID-19).

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