

2021/2022 Academic Year

# COVID-19: Mandatory Quarantine & Travel Guide

# **Background**

The Government of Canada has put in place measures to slow the introduction and spread of COVID-19 in Canada. Robertson also has been putting an ongoing effort to provide our students with a safe, clean and comfortable quarantine process and to protect both students and Canadian communities with the Government of Manitoba's support and guidance. The support and guidance from the Government of Manitoba have been include but are not limited to:

- Providing with Canada's Guidance for post-secondary institutions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Guidance for post-secondary institutions during the COVID-19 pandemic is available HERE
- Establishing a mechanism to approve this plan to welcome international students to post-secondary institutions in Manitoba, including Robertson. (Information has been updated for 2021/2022 academic year)
- Implementing a pandemic response tool that uses the colours- Green: Limited Risk, Yellow: Caution, Orange: Restricted and Red: Critical. At each level, public health officials have a range of restrictions that could be imposed on different sectors, including at post-secondary institutions
- Updating the provincial response level in response to the spread of the virus and other
  public health indicators. Information on Manitoba's Pandemic Response System\* is
  available at <a href="https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/restartmb/prs/system/index.html">https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/restartmb/prs/system/index.html</a>

Robertson's COVID-19: Mandatory Quarantine & Travel Guide is created based on the information and guidance provided by the government of Canada and the government of Manitoba. In order to ensure that Robertson's plan regarding COVID-19 continues to meet requirements and to verify our ongoing adherence to Federal requirements, Robertson has ongoing communication with the Department of Economic Development and Training.

Manitoba Public Health is responsible for overall public health outbreak responses and case management in Manitoba. As per the requirements set by the Manitoba Public Health, Robertson has set the plans and protocols for Case Management and Outbreak Response in place. Robertson's case management/outbreak response processes are consistent with the processes Manitoba Public Health has in place. Robertson will inform students when the Manitoba pandemic response level changes.

Robertson's COVID-19 Policy for Students, Instructors and Staff is available <u>HERE</u>. Robertson's COVID-19 Vaccination Policies and Q&A is available <u>HERE</u>.

<u>Travel Advisory: On September 7, new measures for fully vaccinated international travellers to Canada</u>

# COVID-19: Information for Students

# 14-day Mandatory Quarantine

An international student must have a 14-day quarantine plan in case it is determined at the border that they do not meet all of the conditions required to be exempt from quarantine. This is still the case even if they believe they meet the criteria for being considered a fully vaccinated traveller. Students should be in contact with their designated learning institution for assistance in developing quarantine plans in advance of their arrival to Canada. Information about the quarantine plan must be submitted in ArriveCAN prior to travel to Canada. If you do not have a plan, you should not travel to Canada as you may not be allowed to enter the country. A border services officer will determine if you can enter the country.

To be able to enter Canada as a student, you need to:

- 1. have a valid study permit or letter of introduction that shows you have been approved for a study permit, and
- 2. be attending a designated learning institution with a COVID-19 readiness plan approved by its province or territory

If you received a Letter of Acceptance from Robertson, but your study permit/student visa application is still in processing, you may choose to start your program virtually from where you are located, until the end of December 2021.

If you have recently arrived in Canada, the Government of Canada officials may call you and your co-arriving family members to monitor compliance with your mandatory quarantine. We ask that you please answer calls from 1-888-336-7735.

If you develop cold or flu-like symptoms during the quarantine, contact Health Links-Info (MB) at (204)788-8200 or 1-888-315-9257 (toll-free).

#### **Know Your Last Day of Quarantine**

- The date you began quarantine + 14 days = end of the quarantine
  - For example, if you began your quarantine on September 1<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup> + 14 days = ends on September 15<sup>th</sup>
  - o If you began your quarantine on the first Wednesday of September, your quarantine ends 2 weeks later, on the third Wednesday of September
- If you did not have symptoms when you got tested, but then develop symptoms during your 14-day quarantine period, you must restart 14 days from the first day that you have symptoms
- If you develop symptoms while quarantining, a test is required. If the COVID-19 test results are negative, your quarantine will be extended for another 14 days

# Travel Guide for Students

This travel guide is made to provide the necessary information for your safe travel before your arrival. Thus, you must read and understand the entire information package and follow what this information package instructs and indicates.

# Before your travel

## Make Sure You Are Eligible To Travel To Canada

To be able to enter Canada as a student, you need to

- have a valid study permit or letter of introduction that shows you have been approved for a study permit.
- be attending a designated learning institution with a COVID-19 readiness plan approved by its province or territory.
- have a 14-day quarantine plan in case it is determined at the border that they do not
  meet all of the conditions required to be exempt from quarantine. This is still the case
  even if they believe they meet the criteria for being considered a fully vaccinated
  traveller.
- be in contact with their designated learning institution for assistance in developing quarantine plans in advance of their arrival to Canada.
- submit the quarantine plan in <u>ArriveCAN</u> prior to travel to Canada.
- provide proof of vaccination in English or French (or a certified translation of their document).
- still meet the pre-entry and on-arrival testing requirements, including being tested within 72 hours pre-departure. They must also be asymptomatic, submit all required COVID-19 information electronically into <u>ArriveCAN</u> prior to travel to Canada, have a paper or digital copy of their proof of vaccination, and have a suitable quarantine plan.

For more information, please visit:

<u>Current travel restrictions and exemptions</u>

Necessary documents

Government of Canada mandatory 14-day quarantine requirements

COVID-19 vaccines and immunization

COVID-19 Vaccine Consent Form

Information on Province of Manitoba immunization cards and immunization records

Quarantine and Isolation for International Students-FAQ

All information provided to students and the accompanying family members is referencing current federal and provincial public health orders and may be updated without notifications.

# **Book Your 14-Day Self-Quarantine Location**

The federal government advised that institutions need to continue to ensure students can meet their obligations under the Quarantine Act and to continue to communicate with students as required.

- **ALL** students and co-arriving immediate family members (vaccinated and non-vaccinated) must have 14-day quarantine plans made in collaboration with Robertson College in advance of their arrival to Canada.
- **CAUTION**: Students must be aware of and disregard all messaging on social media platforms saying that they should cancel their quarantine bookings because it is possible to quarantine for free at designated quarantine facilities. This information is false and misleading.
- On arrival in Canada, international students and co-arriving immediate family members are required to provide, on request, evidence of COVID-19 vaccination and the original version of that evidence to any official of the Government of Canada, including a public health official, or of the government of a province or to the local public health authority of the place where the traveller is located. This is how local public health authorities will verify the vaccination status of international students and their co-arriving immediate family members.
- On arrival in Canada, international students and co-arriving immediate family members
  who meet the requirements to be exempt from the mandatory 14-day quarantine period
  will receive a turquoise handout. The handout is not personalized. It is the student's
  responsibility to meet the requirements of the federal public health and quarantine
  requirements outlined in the handout.
  - All arriving international students and co-arriving immediate family members must be prepared to quarantine, even if they believe they will be exempt from the requirement.
  - Even if they are vaccinated, Government of Canada officials may not provide a turquoise handout (an exemption) if they believe the individual needs to quarantine. Reasons a Government of Canada official may deny a vaccinated individual an exemption may include, but are not limited to, their assessment that the individual:
    - Did not receive last vaccine dose at least 14-days prior to entering Canada
    - Does not present the required documents (including properly translated foreign credentials)
    - Does not meet all of the criteria for an exemption
    - Has tested positive for COVID-19 at the border
  - o International students must consult with Robertson to ensure they understand and meet the criteria for quarantine exemption.
- On arrival in Manitoba, international students and co-arriving immediate family members are obligated to isolate if symptomatic or when they have a positive COVID-19 test result on Day 1 or 8.
- Students who test positive while in quarantine must remain in isolation for 14 days from the date the sample was taken and which has been validated by the test provider at their DLI's prescribed Suitable Place of Isolation. Institutions with pre-approved quarantine facilities are responsible for ensuring that students have transportation from the

- Government Authorized Accommodation, and are able to remain at the facility until the end of their isolation period.
- All international students and co-arriving immediate family members are expected to have the financial means to support themselves for the full 14-day quarantine period, including the 3-night stay at Government Authorized Accommodations, and any extended period of isolation should they test positive for COVID-19.

There are hotels, homestays and short-term accommodation providers that offer student self-quarantine rates, and meal plans. You may book a hotel, Airbnb, or private housing that meets the requirements indicated above.

However, please make sure to contact the host/provider if they:

- Provide shuttle service or airport pick-up service upon arrival
- Provide meal services and, if so, how often and at what cost
- Provide bedsheets, towels, and other supplies

If you are unable to arrange the self-quarantine, please contact <a href="mailto:international.admissions@robertsoncollege.ca">international.admissions@robertsoncollege.ca</a> for the information that Robertson has regarding hotels near the Winnipeg International Airport and homestays that will accommodate international students for self-quarantining in the city.

# **Plan Your Transportation From The Airport**

On arrival in Canada, international students and co-arriving family members who meet the requirements to be exempt from the mandatory 14-day quarantine period may use public transportation following the guidelines of local public health orders.

Please refer to the Transportation Advice from the Government of Manitobahttps://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/restoring/transportation.html

# **Download ArriveCan Mobile App**

Information needs to be filled out up to 48 hours before arriving in Canada. Each person has to download the app and fill out the information on their own.

Please refer to the **Government of Canada website** for more information

Use this mobile app to speed up your arrival process in Canada and spend less time with border and public health officers. Submit your information easily and securely via the app **within a 48 hours** window before arriving in Canada. The app helps you to:

- Provide mandatory information that is required for entry into Canada
- Avoid lineups and reduce points of contact at the border
- Provide updates on your quarantine compliance and the development of any symptoms during the 14 days after arriving in Canada

Continue to use ArriveCAN for screening symptoms and daily tracking during the 14-day-quarantine

#### **Health Insurance**

Your GuardMe health insurance will be validated on the date of your arrival. Guard.me International Insurance confirms that their student insurance policy provides full coverage against medically necessary treatment caused by COVID-19, including during the period of quarantine. Please refer to <u>Guard Me Insurance Coverage Summary</u> and <u>Guard Me: COVID-19</u> FAQ.

You must confirm your arrival date with Robertson's International Team at least a week before your departure. Your co-arriving immediate family members must also have proper medical insurance that includes coverage against COVID-19.

Please contact <u>helen.lee@robertsoncollege.ca</u> if you would like to add your family members to your health insurance as dependants.

# After Your Arrival – Vaccinations

#### **Monitor Your Health**

Manitobans and visiting students and their co-arriving immediate family members are required to follow the public health orders. If a quarantine is required, you and your co-arriving family members need to monitor your health for 14 days. <u>Click here</u> for detailed information.

#### **Vaccinations**

The Manitoba government will administer the vaccine to non-Manitoba residents who have been isolating in Manitoba for at least 14-days, and who will remain in Manitoba for a further 16-days minimum, resulting in a total stay of no less than 30-days. Non-residents must meet the minimum age requirement for each vaccine as listed in the eligibility criteria found here: <a href="https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/eligibility-criteria.html">https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/eligibility-criteria.html</a>.

- Temporary residents, including international students and their co-arriving immediate family members, must provide proof of date of entry to Manitoba, as well as documentation to support the reason and anticipated length of their stay (e.g., student visa, work visa, immigration documents).
- International students and their co-arriving immediate family members:
  - do not require a Manitoba health card to be vaccinated. All Manitoba supersites
    are open and offering walk-in and appointment-based vaccinations, with
    adjusted clinic hours. For hours and days of operation, visit <u>HERE</u>. International
    students and their co-arriving immediate family members may walk-in at these
    locations for vaccination, provided that they are eligible and bring all required
    documentation.

Please note that appointments cannot be made online without a health card. International students who wish to book an appointment in advance are to telephone 1-844-626-8222 to do so. Individuals should call for an appointment as soon as possible upon arrival in Manitoba. They must indicate on the call that they are an international student or, if they are a co-arriving immediate family member, they should indicate they are newly arrived to Canada.

- must complete the required consent form prior to their appointment, and bring it with them. Please note that certain areas of the form will not apply to non-residents, and should be left blank. The consent form is available at: <a href="COVID-19">COVID-19</a> Vaccine Consent Form (manitoba.ca).
- Immunization staff will collect alternate information as required, during the appointment.
- must present a valid Passport ID when attending their vaccination appointment.
- are eligible to receive a second dose in Manitoba if their first dose was in their home country. Upon arrival, they should contact a local public health office to have their first dose recorded. Healthcare professionals will advise them as to their vaccination schedule in Manitoba. Students will require a proof of vaccination document from their public health office or equivalent in their home country. Note: If their first dose was a vaccine not approved in Canada, healthcare professionals will also advise them as to their vaccination schedule in Manitoba. For a list of public health offices visit HERE.
- More information on vaccines is available at https://www.protectmb.ca.

# **Immunization Cards and Records**

At this time, an immunization card is only available for people with a Manitoba health card. However, individuals who have received vaccination in Manitoba can contact local public health offices to receive an official immunization record.

<u>Current information on immunization cards and immunization records</u>

<u>List of local public health offices</u>

## **COVID-19 Testing**

It is important to go for testing as soon as a person starts to feel unwell, even if only mildly ill. Identifying and isolating positive cases, as well as identifying and isolating any close contacts as quickly as possible is important for reducing the transmission of COVID-19 in communities.

For information on symptoms, testing, location of testing sites, and accessing results, visit: https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/

If you have questions or concerns related to COVID-19, please visit https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/ or call Health Links–Info Santé in Winnipeg at 204-788-8200; toll free elsewhere in Manitoba 1-888-315-9257.

# After Your Arrival – Safe Quarantine

# **Quarantine Without Delay and Ensure:**

- You and your co-arriving family members must quarantine without delay
- You have a suitable place of isolation that has the necessities of life
- Go directly to the place where you will quarantine without delay, and stay there for 14 days from the date you arrive in Canada
- You must wear a suitable non-medical mask or face covering while in transit
- Practise physical distancing at all times
- Do not take public transportation (such as municipal transit or taxis). Use private transportation only, such as your private vehicle
- Avoid contact with others while in transit
- Remain in the vehicle
- Do not stay at a hotel (unless it offers self-quarantine accommodations)
- If you need gas, pay at the pump
- If you need food, use a drive-through
- If you need to use a rest area, put on your mask and be mindful of physical distancing and good hygiene practices

# **During The 14-Day Self-Quarantine**

To help reduce the spread of COVID-19:

- Check-in within 48 hours of arrival through the **ArriveCAN** app or call **1-833-641-0343**
- Report your symptoms through the **ArriveCAN** app and Manitoba Screening Tool every day until the end of your 14-day quarantine
- Manitoba Screening Tool is available <u>HERE</u>, or in Interactive Voice Response (IVR) format at 1-877-308-9038

To support your physical and mental well-being, Robertson International staff will check in with you at least once a day via Zoom meeting or a phone call. Helen Lee (204 - 557 – 2834) or Joe Liu (204 - 955 – 6697) will be in touch with you every day.

- The first phone call is scheduled at 10 AM every day. If discussed, this can be done via a Zoom meeting
- If you were not able to answer the phone call/Zoom meeting, you are expected to contact Robertson via email/text/phone call
- If unable to reach you, Robertson staff will continue to try to reach you by phone every 3 hours until you answer
- If you do not answer the phone calls, and we do not hear from you for more than 9 hours, it will be reported to local police to make sure that you are safe

# Recommended during quarantine:

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol
- Open windows as weather permits and when possible to facilitate ventilation
- Avoid touching your face
- Cover your mouth and nose with your arm when you cough or sneeze

- Stay connected to your family, friends, and Robertson's staff via text, phone call, email, FaceTime, etc
- You will be called from 1-888-336-7735 to verify your compliance during your 14-day quarantine
- Robertson's International Team staff will check in daily with you to ensure you are physically and mentally healthy

What You Can Do	What You Can't Do
You may use shared spaces or private outdoor spaces in your place of quarantine provided you:  • Avoid contact with others who did not travel with you;  • Disinfect spaces after use; Wear a non-medical mask or face covering if a distance of 2 metres from others residing in your place of quarantine cannot be maintained.	You may not leave your place of quarantine unless it is to seek medical assistance.  You may not have any guests even if you are outside and stay two metres apart from them.

Robertson will inform students of any changes to the public health orders, but students are also encouraged to visit <a href="https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/prs/orders/">https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/prs/orders/</a> to know any changes in the current public health orders.

# If becoming symptomatic

If you or your co-arriving family members become symptomatic while quarantining, you should seek medical advice and information about COVID-19 testing. Complete the <u>Self-Screening Tool</u> from Shared Health and/or call Health Links-Info Santé in Winnipeg at 204-788-8667. Based on the test results, local public health officials will advise the individual what actions should be taken.

If individuals are experiencing severe symptoms or difficulty breathing, call 911 immediately.

# If you are close contacts or tested positive for COVID-19

- Be prepared to provide information to Health Links or healthcare professionals on whether they have been vaccinated or have had COVID-19.
- All Robertson's students, staff and visitors are strongly encouraged to take the online screening each day prior to attending the campus. Please ensure to use the most recent version of the <u>Shared Health online screening tool</u>https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/.
- Please refer to the information on <u>Self-Isolation</u> (<u>Ouarantine</u>) and <u>Isolation</u>.

#### **GuardMe Health Insurance**

- GuardMe Website <a href="https://www.guard.me/">https://www.guard.me/</a>
- Phone number 1-877-873-8447 (toll-free)

• Guard.me mobile doctor <a href="https://www.guard.me/mobiledoctor.php">https://www.guard.me/mobiledoctor.php</a> (This provides access to doctors, Canada wide, on your phone, tablet or computer anytime, anywhere, and help prevent the need to go to a walk-in clinic or Emergency Room)

Please refer to the GuardMe health insurance Details of Coverage and FAQ for COVID-19 here.

# **Mental Well-being**

Keep.me SAFE and Guard.meCARES are available for all Robertson students.

- Keep.meSAFE mobile app <a href="https://www.guard.me/keepmesafe.php">https://www.guard.me/keepmesafe.php</a> (This provides 24/7 access to mental health support)
- Guard.meCARES mobile app <a href="https://www.guard.me/mobileAPP.php">https://www.guard.me/mobileAPP.php</a> (This helps International students manage a significant amount of culture shock this issue by streamlining the onboarding experience of international students)

# **Groceries & Food Delivery-**

If you need to order food or have groceries delivered, some of the available options are as follows:

- Instacart (Same-day grocery delivery) Instacart (Same-day grocery delivery)
- Skipthedishes (Food delivery) <a href="https://www.skipthedishes.com/winnipeg/cuisines">https://www.skipthedishes.com/winnipeg/cuisines</a>,
- Doordash (Food delivery) <u>www.doordash.com</u>
- Ubereats (Food delivery) <a href="https://www.ubereats.com/ca/location/winnipeg">https://www.ubereats.com/ca/location/winnipeg</a>

# After 14-day-quarantine

Make sure you self-monitor your physical and mental health on-going. GuardMe health insurance and Keep.me SAFE is available at any time you need. Also, Robertson staff are available for ongoing support. If you would like advice or would like to discuss your physical or mental health with a Robertson team member please feel free to reach out to Helen Lee (204 - 557 – 2834) and Joe Liu (204 - 955 – 6697) or when immediate assistance is required

Robertson's COVID-19 Policy, including protocols and guidelines for the safe campus, what to do if you feel sick at home, and communication protocol, is available <u>HERE</u>.

# Helpful Information

For travellers without symptoms of COVID-19 entering Canada: Click Here

For travellers with symptoms of COVID-19 entering Canada: Click Here

Locations where you may have been exposed to COVID-19: Click Here

Resources from the Government of Manitoba

- Community Screening (COVID Testing) Locations in Winnipeg
- Flights and Events with Confirmed Cases
- Prepare and Prevent Covid19, including Social Distancing Information

Government of Canada's Information regarding Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): Click Here

For urgent issues, contact Robertson's International Team

Helen Lee – helen.lee@robertsoncollege.ca / cell. (204) 557 - 2834 Joe Liu – joe.liu@robertsoncollege.ca / cell. (204) 955 - 6697

# COVID-19 Policy and Protocol for Quarantine and Students' Safety

# **Purpose**

At Robertson, the health and safety of our students, instructors, and staff is our top priority. We want to ensure we are all working together to take effective action to limit the potential spread of COVID-19 when returning to campus. This policy outlines Robertson's campus reopening plan and describes the guidelines and protocols involved in safely returning to campus; it is intended for all Robertson students, instructors and staff.

# **Student Support Plan**

To support students' physical and mental well-being, Robertson International staff will check in with them at least once a day via a Zoom meeting or a phone call. Helen Lee (204 - 557 – 2834) or Joe Liu (204 - 955 – 6697) will be in touch with you every day.

The phone call/Zoom meeting is a casual conversation, including but not limited to:

- How the student is doing in general
- How the student is coping with quarantine requirements
- If the student and the immediate family member quarantining with the student is experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms
- Reminding to take the self-assessment using the Manitoba self-screening tool and the ArriveCan application
- Information and/or advice on individual COVID-19 infection control practices (e.g. opening the windows for air circulation, washing hands frequently, eating healthy and monitoring physical symptoms and emotional/mental wellness)

The first phone call is scheduled at 10 AM every day. If discussed, this can be done via a Zoom meeting. If the phone call/Zoom meeting was not answered, the student is expected to contact Robertson either via an email, text message or a phone call

Next phone calls will be every 3 hours until it's answered if the student hasn't contacted Robertson. If the student does not answer the phone calls and has not contacted Robertson for more than 9 hours, it will be reported to local police to make sure that the student is safe.

# **Case Management and Outbreak Response**

International students who are close contacts or have tested positive for COVID-19 should be prepared to provide information to Health Links or healthcare professionals on whether they have been vaccinated or have had COVID-19.

It is encouraged for ALL students, staff, and visitors to take the online screening each day prior to attending campus. To ensure the most recent version of the Shared Heath tool is being used, individuals should regularly access the Shared Health online screening tool.

Should Robertson College become aware of any breaches to quarantine steps will be taken to communicate with the individual concerning:

- Awareness and understanding of the terms of quarantine, as well as consequences for being in breach of it
- Barriers that may exist for the individual to remain in quarantine (e.g. inability to obtain needed groceries, medications or essential items for daily living); Robertson College staff will work with the individual to resolve barriers to the extent they are able.

If a student is believed to be non-compliant with quarantine requirements or any other requirement of the Emergency Orders, Robertson has been advised by the Government of Canada to contact the local police. In addition, Robertson may report incidences of non-compliance to the Public Health Agency of Canada's Compliance and Enforcement Team.

## What to do if you feel sick at home

If students, instructors or staff get sick with fever, have a cough or are experiencing trouble breathing they should:

- 1. Avoid contact with others; quarantine immediately.
- 2. Inform their instructor or director/manager immediately that they are experiencing symptoms if they are comfortable doing so.
- 3. Quarantine and seek medical advice and information about COVID-19 testing.
- 4. Continue to quarantine until required (as per the MB and AB self-isolation requirements stated above).
- 5. Inform their instructor/director/manager if their test results are positive if they choose to disclose
- 6. Provincial Health authorities will follow up and notify individuals who may have been in close contact with the individual infected. Robertson will also communicate to those students, staff and instructors who may be impacted. Only pertinent information about the exposure will be shared to protect the privacy of the individual infected.

# What to do if you feel sick while on campus

If students, instructors and staff develop symptoms on campus they should:

- 1. Inform their instructor/director/manager immediately.
- 2. Ensure their face remains covered with a mask.
- 3. Quarantine themselves in a vacant space or as per the directive of their instructor/director/manager.
- 4. Arrange to go home immediately; call an emergency contact or a member of their household to arrange a ride; avoid public transportation (bus, taxi).
- 5. Maintain a two-metre distance from other students, instructors, and staff while exiting the building.
- 6. The student is advised to quarantine and seek medical advice and information about COVID-19 testing.

# **Possibility of Positive Case on Campus - Communication Protocol**

The following process applies to a Robertson student, instructor or staff member who tests positive for COVID:

- When a positive case on campus is confirmed, local public health officials will lead the response.
- The local public health authority will advise the institution if a confirmed case of COVID-19 was present on campus during the person in question's infectious period, and assess the need for the institution or part of the institution to be closed for a period of time, and provide any other further direction.
- Local public health authorities will identify close contacts of a positive case and contact those individuals who may have been exposed.
- Health authorities will advise on whether to close off areas used by the infected person and will advise as to whether cleaning and disinfecting protocols must be enacted.
- Robertson will work with provincial health authorities, following their processes and protocols for tracking and informing specific individuals who may be at risk of infection. All individuals who were at risk of exposure will be required to self-isolate as per the provincial self-isolation requirements specified above.
- Students will continue to learn virtually until they have been notified by their instructor/director/manager that it is safe to return to campus.

## **Possibility of Close Contact - Communication Protocol**

Students, instructors, and staff are legally required to self-isolate for 14 days (as per MB and AB guidelines) and monitor for symptoms if they come in close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19. Exposure may have resulted from providing care to another individual, living with or having close physical contact without appropriate use of personal protective equipment, coming into direct contact with infectious body fluids, or other (Province of Alberta, 2020).

The following process applies to a Robertson student, instructor, or staff member who has a member of their household tests positive or who has been in contact with someone who has recently tested positive:

- If a student discloses a possible exposure to an instructor, the instructor should inform their director immediately.
- If an instructor or staff member discloses a positive result to their director/manager, the director/manager must inform senior management immediately.
- When a positive case on campus is confirmed, local public health officials will lead the response.
- The local public health authority will advise the institution if a possible exposure was present on campus during and assess the need for the institution or part of the institution to be closed for a period of time, and provide any other further direction.
- Local public health authorities will identify close contacts of potential exposure and contact those individuals who may have been exposed.

- Health authorities will advise on whether to close off areas used by the infected person and will advise as to whether cleaning and disinfecting protocols must be enacted.
- Robertson will work with provincial health authorities, following their processes and
  protocols for tracking and informing specific individuals who may be at risk of infection.
  All individuals who were at risk of exposure will be required to self-isolate as per the
  provincial self-isolation requirements specified above.
- Students will continue to learn virtually until they have been notified by their instructor/director/manager that it is safe to return to campus.

# **Privacy of Health Information**

Robertson is committed to protecting the private health information of its students, instructors and staff as per provincial health information legislation; individuals who choose to disclose private health information related to COVID can be assured that only pertinent information will be shared in an effort to keep our students, staff and instructors safe and healthy.

# **Anti-Stigma Support**

The COVID-19 pandemic can cause stress on people and communities. It can lead to individuals experiencing social stigma, exclusion, marginalization, mental health issues and discrimination. Lack of understanding about COVID-19 has sparked feelings of fear or anger towards others and unfair treatment against a number of groups, including:

- people who have COVID-19
- people who have symptoms of COVID-19
- health care, front-line and essential workers
- people from countries where the virus originated from
- people who have recently travelled or returned to Canada from another country
- people from communities, cultures, or industries where COVID-19 outbreaks have occurred
- people who may not follow recommended public health measures

In order to prevent social stigma related to COVID-19, all of Robertson's students, instructors and staff are encouraged to choose words carefully when talking about COVID 19 as follows:

- COVID-19; Coronavirus, instead of The virus from Asia/China/Wuhan
- People who may have COVID-19, instead of Suspected cases of COVID-19
- People who have COVID-19; People being treated for COVID-19, instead of COVID-19 cases or victims

More information is available at <u>World Health Organization (WHO)</u> and <u>Canadian Center for Occupational Health and Safety</u>

\*Robertson will continue to actively monitor the COVID-19 situation closely and revise our COVID Policy according to provincial and federal protocols.