

A MESSAGE FROM:**Kathryn Cameron, PhD**
Chief Risk Officer
Risk Management

Updates to contact tracing and case management procedures

Dear Sheridan Community,

I'd like to take this opportunity to provide some updates to Sheridan's COVID-19 case management process and to remind you about our collective reporting duty to keep each other safe at Sheridan.

Throughout the pandemic, we have relied on you to let us know about your circumstances regarding COVID-19. We have a great track record of self-reporting and taking the appropriate precautions that have kept our community safe.

The rapid and exponential spread of Omicron has changed many aspects of COVID-19 case and contact management. With more stringent testing criteria, many of us are no longer eligible for a provincially-funded test to confirm a COVID-19 diagnosis. Instead, public health has asked anyone with COVID-19 symptoms to stay home, use Ontario's [self assessment tool](#) and limit their social interactions.

We continue to count on you to let us know about your COVID-19 symptoms and/or a positive COVID-19 test result. **The requirement to report applies if you have been on campus in the 48 hours prior to symptom onset and/or a positive COVID-19 test, or if you have been on campus after developing symptoms and/or testing positive for COVID-19.** This can now be done through a [self-reporting form](#) instead of directly reaching out to the Student Health Centre.

Effective Monday, January 24, 2022, Sheridan's approach to contact tracing will become more aligned with current public health practices. As you may already know, [public health guidance](#) states that individuals with COVID-19 symptoms will be asked to identify close contacts and to provide those close contacts with specific information. A close contact means you were in close proximity (less than 2 meters) for at least 15 minutes or for multiple short periods of time without appropriate measures such as masking and use of personal protective equipment. (e.g., eating or studying together without a mask on).

Sheridan has numerous safety measures in place, including HVAC upgrades, a vaccination policy, physical distancing, enhanced cleaning and disinfecting, and most recently, provision of high-quality medical masks. The rapid antigen testing clinic continues to be available to employees and students who want to participate. All of this information and [other FAQs are posted on Sheridan's COVID-19 page](#).

Lastly, we recognize how challenging this is for our Sheridan community. Please utilize Sheridan's many [wellness programs](#) including mental health care and other related supports. Students may reach out to the Wellness and Counselling department through askanadvisor@sheridancollege.ca or book appointments [online](#). Students may continue to call the Student Health Centre at (905) 459-7533 ext. 5153 at Davis and (905) 845-9430 ext. 2550 at Trafalgar. HMC students may use either number for health concerns related to COVID-19 or otherwise. For all other student supports, virtual appointments can be made [here](#).

Thank you for doing your part in keeping our community safe.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kathryn Cameron, PhD
Chief Risk Officer
Risk Management

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