Dear students, staff, and faculty:

As we approach the start of the winter term, the university’s leadership team wants to thank you again for your flexibility and perseverance during these challenging times. These last few months have been difficult, and Queen’s is lucky to have such dedicated students, staff, and faculty.

As previously communicated, the university is strongly urging all students living on or off campus to avoid returning to Kingston until after the shutdown ends, unless absolutely necessary for their academic activities or wellbeing. This recommendation is in accordance with the provincial government announcement advising that all Ontarians stay at home to the fullest extent possible, and that travel outside your region should be limited to essential purposes only.

If individuals must travel for essential purposes, the university is requesting that all students, staff, and faculty travelling to Kingston from outside the KFL&A, Hastings and Prince Edward Counties, and Leeds, Grenville, and Lanark region should self-isolate for 14 days upon your return. If you live off-campus, consider using online ordering for food or essential items and avoid situations where you could come in contact with others. Self-isolation is required for all individuals who need to access on-campus facilities. Information on how to self-isolate is listed on the KFL&A Public Health website.

In addition, all individuals within the KFL&A region are legally required to adhere to the KFL&A Public Health Class Order pursuant to Section 22 of the Ontario Health Protection and Promotion Act, 1990. Under the order, self-isolation is required for individuals who:

a. Are identified as a person diagnosed with COVID-19;
b. Have the signs or symptoms of COVID-19, have similar signs or symptoms, or who have tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting test results;
c. Otherwise have reasonable grounds to believe they have symptoms of COVID-19; or
d. Are a close contact of a person identified in a. or as identified by KFL&A Public Health.

If you fall into the above-noted categories, you should not travel from your current region to Kingston until your health care provider or local Public Health unit tells you it is safe to do so.

The university thanks Queen’s students, staff, and faculty for doing your part to keep your family, friends, and community safe from the spread of COVID-19.

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