



Services de santé du

TIMISKAMING
Health Unit

Enhancing your health in so many ways.

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www.timiskaminghu.com

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Dear School Partners,

The Timiskaming Health Unit has fielded a lot of questions and had to clarify some confusion surrounding the probable case definition and when to contact the health unit. We are aware of your requirement under Section 28 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act to report cases to public health but have encountered issues with schools trying to apply the probable case definition.

Determining if someone meets the definition of a probable case requires a detailed assessment and should only be determined by public health. In the event that we identify a probable case in one of your schools, we will notify you. The only circumstances in which we foresee you having to notify us of a probable case are as follows:

- 1) A staff member or student (through their parent or guardian) informs you that they have been identified as a probable case by public health.
- 2) You are notified by another public health jurisdiction about a probable case in one of your schools.

We want to support school staff as much as possible with the management of ill individuals and encourage schools to call us if:

- 1) They are of the opinion that an individual may have COVID-19. This suspicion should be more than just a symptomatic individual who was sent home.
- 2) They have concerns about absences or attendance concerns within their school community.
- 3) They have questions about the management of individuals with symptoms.
- 4) There are concerns about multiple ill individuals in a cohort.

We can be reached at 1-866-747-4305. We also encourage school staff to reach out to our school liaison at Ext.2267 if they have any questions about COVID-19 and how to best protect your students and staff.

Sincerely,

Ray Gullekson BSc, BAsC, CPHI(C), CIC
Senior Public Health Inspector