



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY

To the campus community,

On Monday, March 21, the province will be entering Phase III of its gradual reopening plan and will initiate a further easing of the restrictions that we have been living with for nearly two years.

While we collectively progress and learn to live with Covid, the university's priority is to maintain the health of our community to enable a safe and stable exam period for our students and faculty. With only a handful of weeks remaining in the term, we are committed to taking a progressive, yet measured approach to relaxing our Covid protocols on campus.

Beginning March 21 until April 30 (i.e., including exam period), masks will remain mandatory in all campus buildings (excluding residences). The only exception to mandatory mask-wearing will be during 'closed events', in which participants have discretion as to whether they attend the event or not. For example, a speaking event taking place inside the Schwartz Auditorium is considered a closed event, in which masks will be required as participants enter the Schwartz School, but no longer be required once inside the Schwartz Auditorium, a controlled and closed space. In contrast, a lecture in which students are required to attend will require masks to be worn.

Having said this, we will be taking a very judicious approach to events on campus, with all proposed events being evaluated by the Event Review Committee, and, for proposed larger-scale events, the Covid Steering Committee.

Isolate@stfx.ca will remain active and we ask all students (living on or off campus) to continue to notify Student Services via this email address immediately if you have symptoms or test positive for Covid. The university will continue to provide supports such as meal or grocery delivery, health check-ins, and facilitate academic accommodations.

RESIDENCE POLICY UPDATES

For students who live in residence, new guest and gathering limit within residence policies will take effect on Monday, March 14. All residence students will receive a separate communication from Student Life outlining these new policies within the next 24 hours.

COVID IS STILL IN OUR COMMUNITY -- CONTINUE SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE PRACTICES

As the rules and protocols mandated by Public Health and the Province of Nova Scotia come to an end, please be mindful that Covid has not disappeared and that it continues to circulate within our communities. We strongly encourage people to continue to employ the safe practices and respectful community behaviours that have served us all so well to this point. Although it may not be required after March 21, the province still recommends you wear a mask when possible. Always be aware of the number of people you are socializing with and, most importantly, monitor your health daily.

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