

Safe Return to Campus Guidebook

As previously communicated, we have finalized our Pilot Project planning for your return to campus to complete your program. This pilot commences July 6, 2020. The return to St. Clair's campuses-even in a limited way, to attend your essential labs, workshops and clinics-may be worrisome to you, given that the Coronavirus-COVID-19 pandemic is still with us.

Your concern is understandable and is shared by everyone at the College: the administration, faculty members, support staff and your Student Representative Council (SRC).

That's why an ultra-detailed plan has been put in place by the College to substantially reduce the risk of viral transmission at the school.

The administration has asked the SRC to highlight the sections of that plan that are specifically pertinent to students and to encourage you to go through it carefully and thoroughly.

With the reassurance that your health-and-safety is the paramount concern of everyone at St. Clair, please read through "The College, COVID and You" as you prepare for your return to campus.

(This is an informal and brief overview of the College's COVID response plan. YOU WILL ALSO BE RECEIVING AN EMAIL FROM THE COLLEGE CONTAINING MORE SPECIFIC DETAILS AND PROCEDURES WHICH YOU MUST ABIDE BY DURING YOUR RETURN TO SCHOOL. THAT STUDENT-RELATED PLAN CAN BE FOUND ON THIS PAGE)

If You Think You Might Have It

RULE NUMBER ONE...and this over-rides everything else in this document:

IF YOU THINK YOU MAY HAVE THE COVID-19 VIRUS - OR ANY COMMUNICABLE ILLNESS, FOR THAT MATTER - DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL OR GO ANYWHERE THAT PUTS YOU IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO ANYONE. SELF-ISOLATE UNTIL YOU CAN SEE A HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL TO HAVE YOUR SYMPTOMS CHECKED AND BE DIAGNOSED AND TREATED. DO NOT RETURN TO SCHOOL UNTIL YOUR MEDICAL CARE-TAKER HAS DETERMINED THAT YOU ARE WELL AND NO LONGER CAPABLE OF TRANSMITTING THE DISEASE.

We're all familiar with COVID's preliminary symptoms: a persistent cough, a fever, general fatigue and achiness, difficult and/or painful breathing, (in some cases) the loss of the senses of smell and/or taste. If you've got those symptoms, get checked by a medical practitioner. Even if it's not COVID, it might be something else that is both serious and communicable...so, stay home and stay isolated until you've recovered.

See the final section of this document for resources about seeking medical help.

If You Don't Want to Catch It: Personal Behaviour Tips

COVID-19 - and many other viral and bacterial diseases - are transmitted through air-borne molecules (from "carriers" who are coughing near you). Those molecules can also exist on surfaces, where you can pick them up, and then transfer them to your mouth or nose when you touch your face.

The solutions to those transmission methods are simple:

- **WEAR A MASK.** In any setting where you can't stay at least two metres (six feet) away from other people, wear a cloth mask which covers your mouth and nose. College officials will be requiring that we all wear masks in areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain, such as in hallways, stairways, lounges and food service areas, so have one ready for your return to campus. Wash/disinfect your mask frequently.

...and...

- **WASH YOUR HANDS, OFTEN AND THOROUGHLY.** Soap and water, a vigorous lathering and scrubbing for 20 seconds, and rinse that virus right down the drain. It's a perfect method for flu season too, so make a point of becoming a hand-washing maniac. If you can't get to a sink, look for - and use - the dozens of hand-sanitizer dispensers that have been sprinkled all over campus.

If You Don't Want To Catch It: What We'll All Be Doing

A number of "group behaviour" policies have been put in place at the College to reduce the potential for viral transmission.

You'll notice the first one when you arrive at campus. Only certain entrances will be open, to control the flow of people into the school. Security and/or campus health-care personnel may be present there to ask you a few questions about your general state of health. There, too, you'll see posters describing COVID-19, and asking you to self-evaluate the presence of its symptoms.

Many offices and service counters (including food kiosks once open), and even some labs and workshops, have had plexiglass or plastic shielding installed - another barrier method to prevent air-borne transmission.

The most necessary group behaviour that we'll all be expected to continue to practice is physical distancing. Labs, clinics and workshops will be set up to foster the two-metre separation between occupants as much as possible. Lining up at an office, counter or kiosk?

... Keep the two-metre distance from the other people in line. Keep spread out in hallways and stairwells. Elevators will have a minimum occupancy posted... so let's keep them free for use by only the mobility-impaired and staffers with carts.

And "common areas" (lounges, etc.) will have designated, social-distanced configured seating. Please don't re-arrange the furniture to gather in a large group. The seating has been set up for your protection. Students are expected to limit their on-campus attendance to mandatory labs/classes only.

You'll also be seeing signage everywhere about hand-washing, mask-wearing, social-distancing, and other tips, techniques and (yes) rules designed to combat viral transmission. Take the time to read those posters. Again, they are intended to keep you - to keep all of us - healthy.

Resources

For more information about COVID-19 (in general) and the College's response to it, see these websites:

- Public Health Self-Assessment: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>
- Windsor-Essex County Health Unit COVID Page: <https://www.wechu.org/cv/about>
- e-Health Windsor Essex: <https://ehealthwindsoressex.ca/covid-19-checkup/>
- College Health Services: <https://stclaircollege.ca/health-centre>
- College COVID Page: <https://stclaircollege.ca/status/covid-19>