

## Implications of Easing of PHO Restrictions on K-12 Communicable Disease Guidelines

As shared by Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry last month, the protective measures recommended by public health for K-12 schools are set to be reviewed by March 15<sup>th</sup>. We recognize this date occurs very close to, or during school and district's spring breaks. We continue to work closely with BCCDC and the Provincial Steering Committee to understand what changes we may expect, and how and when they should be implemented. We will provide another update next week.

## Rapid Antigen Tests for Students: Schools to also receive BTNX Test Kits

Rapid antigen tests continue to be shipped directly to schools. Some schools may receive BTNX test kits, a different brand of Health Canada-approved rapid antigen test that also is distributed in boxes of 5. Please provide to families the specific letter for the type of test they have received:

- [BTNX Test: Instructions for Use](#)
- [Artron Test: Instructions for Use](#)

Instructions for use are also available from [BCCDC](#).

## Rapid Antigen Tests for Homeschoolers

The Province will be sending additional Rapid Antigen Tests to school and districts with registered homeschoolers. It will be the responsibility of those families to pick up the rapid tests kits for their children, but school districts should provide information to the families regarding how to pick up the tests and provide the [instructions for use](#). Not all districts will have registered homeschoolers.

## Additional Personal Protective Equipment at No Charge

The Province is making additional supplies of certain non-medical personal protective equipment (e.g., non-medical masks, hand sanitizer, etc.) available to schools and districts at no charge, except for shipping costs. Supplies can be ordered through PEAK Health and shipped directly to your central office or warehouse. The link for the specific PPE available and ordering will be sent directly to your district contact.

## COVID-19: Rapid Antigen Test Use for Travel

On February 28, the Federal Government implemented new [COVID-19 testing options](#) for travelers entering Canada.

To be accepted as a valid pre-entry test, Rapid antigen tests must be professionally administered or observed by a pharmacy, laboratory, healthcare entity or telehealth service. Un-observed self-administered rapid antigen tests are not accepted. Staff, students and families are responsible for understanding and adhering to all international travel requirements including [COVID-19 travel, testing and borders](#) as outlined by the Government of Canada. They are advised to become familiar with the travel requirements of their destination, including accepted pre-entry tests.