



## Vigilance required as COVID-19 cases on the rise

### Suggested Media

#### Instructions:

Please run at your discretion.

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#### For immediate release

**(Kahnawake – 25, Enniskó:wa/March 2022)** The Kateri Memorial Hospital Centre Public Health Department and the Public Safety Commission would like to remind the community, that vigilance is still required, as many new positive cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the community.

While the exact number of cases is unknown, it is believed that the current number of cases in the community is similar to the number of cases over the 2021 holiday period. Also, there appear to be many asymptomatic people who are unaware that they have COVID-19 which means that risk level is increased for vulnerable populations. Public Health and Public Safety are advising the community to **be extra cautious at this time.**

In the province of Quebec, approximately 40 percent of positive COVID-19 cases are of the new Omicron (Ba.2) variant, which is even more contagious than the first version of omicron. Percentages are expected to increase quickly. Recent studies still suggest that this sub-variant is less severe than the variants we have seen before however risk is always more elevated for vulnerable populations, elders and those with uncontrolled chronic illnesses.

It is highly recommended that all Kahnawa'kehró:non continue to follow public health measures, and to continue wearing a mask, washing hands and social distance, whenever possible. Most importantly, if you are sick, please stay home until symptoms, especially fever, are gone so that you can protect those around you.

The local Public Health Measures document can be [found here](#).

Public Health recommends that individuals use their judgment, and knowledge to determine their acceptable level of risk in their daily lives.