

**GOVERNMENT OF NEW BRUNSWICK UPDATE**  
**Bulletin #18e: COVID-19 GNB Weekend News Releases from April 3 to 5**  
Distributed: April 6, 2020

**The following update on COVID-19 was issued Friday, April 3:**

**Four new cases of COVID-19, assistance for post-secondary students**

FREDERICTON (GNB) – Public Health has updated the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the province.

Testing at the microbiology laboratory at the Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont University Hospital Centre in Moncton has identified four new cases, bringing the total number of confirmed cases in New Brunswick to 95.

Of the 95 cases, 54 are travel-related, 28 are close contacts of confirmed cases, three cases are from community transmission and 10 cases remain under investigation.

In six cases individuals were hospitalized, but two have since been discharged. Four patients remain in hospital, with one in the intensive care unit.

To date, 25 people have recovered.

The new cases are:

- An individual aged 30-39 in Zone 3 (Fredericton region)
- An individual aged 40-49 in Zone 3 (Fredericton region)
- An individual aged 60-69 in Zone 3 (Fredericton region)
- An individual aged 30-39 in Zone 5 (Campbellton region)

“As we see our cases continue to increase it is important that we keep washing our hands, continue to practise physical distancing and also continue to stay at home,” said Dr. Jennifer Russell, chief medical officer of health. “What we do now to flatten the curve will save lives in our province. We have community transmission so please follow the guidelines.”

**Assistance for post-secondary students**

The Emergency Bridging Fund for Vulnerable Post-Secondary Students will support students who are directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds will be distributed by post-secondary institutions based upon eligibility criteria and will provide a one-time amount of up to \$750 per student.

“The fund will support post-secondary students, including international students, who demonstrate a financial gap in meeting their basic needs between now and the end of the term,” said Premier Blaine Higgs.

Students must contact their institution directly to be considered and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Funding support will be based upon the need for food, shelter, unanticipated medical costs not covered through health plans, and unforeseen additional academic costs.

To qualify, vulnerable students must not qualify for the one-time \$900 provincial emergency fund as of March 30. They must be in a position in which they cannot access money through student loans, Employment Insurance, personal savings, or other COVID-19 related financial assistance programs.

## **Parks**

All provincial parks as well as playgrounds provincewide are closed.

Higgs said today that if municipalities are going to keep their parks and trails open, they must have mechanisms in place to ensure that the limitations on the number of people that can gather is enforced.

“Appropriate signage must be put up at access points to identify limitations on gatherings and the requirements for physical distancing,” said Higgs. “If a municipality cannot monitor usage of their premises, they should be closed.”

## Landlords and tenants

Higgs clarified confusion that has arisen around the state of emergency and how it impacts tenants.

The [mandatory order](#) under the *Emergency Measures Act* suspends the right for landlords to evict tenants for non-payment of rent, through to May 31.

“People can still be evicted,” said Higgs. However, the reason for the eviction cannot be that they are unable to pay their rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All other tenant obligations remain.”

If somebody is unable to pay their rent, they must discuss the matter with their landlord and make the appropriate arrangements for payment.

Up-to-date information about COVID-19 [is available online](#).

### **The following update on COVID-19 was issued Saturday, April 4:**

#### **Three new cases of COVID-19**

FREDERICTON (GNB) – Public Health has updated the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the province.

Testing at the microbiology laboratory at the Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont University Hospital Centre in Moncton has identified three new cases, bringing the total number of confirmed cases in New Brunswick to 98.

Of the 98 cases, 57 are travel-related, 31 are close contacts of confirmed cases, four cases are from community transmission and six cases remain under investigation.

Six patients were hospitalized and two have been discharged. Four patients remain in hospital, with one in the intensive care unit.

To date, 28 patients have recovered.

The new cases, which are under investigation, are:

- An individual aged 20-29 in Zone 3 (Fredericton region)
- An individual aged 30-39 in Zone 3 (Fredericton region)
- An individual aged 50-59 in Zone 3 (Fredericton region)

“We are at the point where we are going to see more community transmission,” said Dr. Jennifer Russell, chief medical officer of health. “We are adapting daily to this changing health-care crisis. But the one thing that has not changed is the importance of people staying home.”

Up-to-date information about COVID-19 [is available online](#).

### **The following update on COVID-19 was issued Sunday, April 5:**

#### **Three new cases of COVID-19**

FREDERICTON (GNB) – Public Health has updated the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the province.

Testing at the microbiology laboratory at the Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont University Hospital Centre in Moncton has identified three new cases, bringing the total number of confirmed cases in New Brunswick to 101.

Of the 101 cases, 58 are travel-related, 32 are close contacts of confirmed cases, five cases are the result of community transmission and six cases remain under investigation.

To date, 28 people have recovered.

The new cases, which are under investigation, are:

- An individual aged 40-49 in Zone 1 (Moncton region)
- An individual aged 30-39 in Zone 2 (Saint John region)
- An individual aged 50-59 in Zone 3 (Fredericton region)

"This is the time to be sensible, to be prudent and, more than anything, to be kind," said Dr. Jennifer Russell, New Brunswick's chief medical officer of health. "We must take care of ourselves and each other. But remember, you would not put someone else's oxygen mask on before your own. I urge you to think about your mental health the same way. Take care of yourselves so you can take care of others. Take a break from reading the news on your phone and use it to call or FaceTime a friend or family member instead."

Premier Blaine Higgs reiterated how important it is that government and all New Brunswickers keep doing everything they can to fight this pandemic.

"We are dealing with a great deal of uncertainty, and I know it has not been easy," said Higgs. "We know there is more to come. We will have more cases. That is why we are doing everything we can to fight this."

He underlined the provincial government's efforts, on the advice of Russell, to contain the spread of COVID-19 by making tough choices early on; to shut things down and restrict travel into the province while making sure essential services remained in place.

Higgs also praised the leaders of the other political parties for their collaboration and engagement during this difficult time and noted how having an all-party cabinet committee has made a difference.

"We are united in our mission," said Higgs. "We have all put politics aside to make the tough decisions. It has been a shining example in this country of how politicians from different stripes can work together. We all have one objective in mind: keeping New Brunswick healthy and safe."

### **Avoid non-essential errands**

Residents are reminded to self-isolate at home and to comply with restrictions imposed under the state of emergency. This means keeping travel to a strict minimum.

Enforcement officers are now fining people for violating the mandatory order. Failing to obey the order has serious consequences, with fines ranging from \$292.50 to \$10,200.

Although all playgrounds in the province are closed, some municipal public parks and walking trails remain open as long as physical and social distancing measures are followed. People are reminded to keep at least two metres from others at all times, do

not form a crowd, and, if they witness non-compliant gatherings, contact a peace officer by calling 1-844-462-8387 (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

Up-to-date information about COVID-19 [is available online](#).