



**Portage Medical**  
**Family Health Team**

July 16/20

**RE: Mandatory Masking in Enclosed Public Spaces Niagara Falls/Niagara Region**

Members of Niagara Regional Council:

As a group of Primary Care Health Practitioners (providing care to 13,000 + patients) it is with strong volition that during this time of global pandemic, with dealing with the health and safety of not only our patients, but the patients/families/community of Niagara Falls and Niagara Region as a whole, that we suggest Niagara Regional Council moves forward with mandatory masking in enclosed public spaces. This is recommended not only based on our medical knowledge and expertise: this includes our first-hand experience with dealing with the COVID-19 patients over the past six (6) months within Niagara Falls and the Niagara Region. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention is now recommending masking as a first step to prevention; we should take heed from the outcome of the United States as they did not choose to make masking mandatory. We need to be proactive not reactive at this time to ensure the health and well-being of our community.

Sincerely,

Dr David A. Dec

Dr Ghazanfar Ahmed

Dr Wilson Leung

Dr Brian Bassil

Dr Alison MacTavish

Dr David Rosa

Dale Rusk, RNEC