

**Manitoba K to 12 COVID-19 Response Planning Team**  
**1:30 pm to 3:00 pm, January 6, 2021**  
**Teams Meeting**

Item	Record of Discussion
<p><b>1. Review of Minutes/Action Items</b></p>	<p><b>Review of Minutes:</b> No errors or omissions.</p> <p><b>Review of Action Tracker:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Labour Capacity – Prior to the holidays, advertising was done and there was 12,000 visits to the website, which is considered heavy traffic. Hoping this turns into employment inquiries.</li> <li>• Public Health Lessons Learned document <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No updates</li> </ul> </li> <li>• EDU Structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will be forthcoming</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Manitoba Remote Learning Support Centre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To be discussed under New Business</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Rapid Testing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To be discussed under Business Arising</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Business Arising:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Rapid Testing – EDU</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Melissa Nishizeki, the lead for the department on this file has been meeting with the Public Health team and she was asked to join the meeting and share information.</li> <li>○ Due to Melissa’s unavailability, this item is deferred until the next meeting.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Staffing –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ had a conversation with regarding the forthcoming announcement about micro-credential programs. has suggested that it be stressed that the programs being launched is only an interim measure to meet School Division staffing needs. The intent is to provide in-coming staff with knowledge. Individuals participating in these programs will not receive any formal recognition as a teacher. There is the anticipation of 400 individuals participating in the first intake.</li> <li>○ took the lead on developing the curriculum and it was based on pre-holiday needs and they will confirm with the school divisions as to their post-holiday needs. These programs are designed to be a Boot-Camp Style consisting of approximate 30 hours or 5 days, offering a day or evening structure. Officially these courses will be called a Condensed Training Program.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>2. New Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Manitoba Remote Learning Support Center Update – EDU</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The launch of the Manitoba Remote Learning Support Centre was January 4, 2021. School Divisions and principals of funded independent schools were sent information.</li> <li>○ The Manitoba Remote Learning Support Center is designed to offer system-wide support for remote learning, with a focus on: students learning from home, supporting smaller divisions who may have limited capacity to offer remote</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

learning; and students and families that have registered for homeschooling due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Information can be accessed via the new web portal at [www.mbremotelearning.ca](http://www.mbremotelearning.ca).

- The centre is offers a remote learning support team comprised of instructional coaches. Coaches will support students and teachers from the Manitoba Remote Learning Support Centre by providing Learning Resources and check-in. Students are expected to be enrolled with their home school division. Hired teachers will be used across divisions.
- The repository with on-demand accessible learning resources will continue to grow as submissions are received from Manitoba educators.
- The framework document is online and outlines foundational beliefs and guiding principals and provides remote learning strategies to support teachers in delivering online learning to ensure consistency across Manitoba.
- As a professional learning hub the centre offers sites that teachers can reach out to receive professional learning support.

The text for the Manitoba Remote Learning Centre has been posted on both the Educator and Parent sites at:

COVID-19 Parent Site <http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/index.html> (English)

COVID-19 Educator Site <http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/latest.html> (English)

COVID019 Parent Site <http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/m12/covid/index.html> (French)

COVID-19 Educator Site <http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/m12/covid/nouvelle.html> (French)

- **Notification Tool Kit – EDU**

- The Notification Tool Kit is intended to support schools in mitigating the risk of Covid-19 transmission. The tool kit includes Steps for identify close contacts in schools, Sample Worksheet: “Case and Close Contact Form”, definition and examples of close contacts and FAQ’s. This information will be available online. The Tool Kit also includes sample letters and template letters which were sent separately. These items will not be available online. The templates are not to be distributed to the public beyond the designated receipt.
- Concern was raised that extra work will be created for school staff especially item #4. It appears that phone calls to notify potential close contacts would be done by principals as opposed to Public Health.
- The concern raised will be taken back to management to review and provide clarification. Below is an excerpt from the toolkit and the step in question is optional.

**Step 4 — Notify potential close contacts (Optional)**

School officials notify potential close contacts and advise them to self-isolate until contacted by public health. Officials may choose to send an optional letter or email notifying the potential close contacts and the general school community (including any substitute staff or volunteers who were present) at this stage, pending public health investigation. See Appendix 2 for templates.

- The Notification Support Team is to be copied on all letters sent out by school to create an exposure tracker on the website which can assist in reaching close contacts. Two e-forms have been created. One form is for the school to send initial information to the Department of what is happening in the school. The second form is to be completed by a public health nurse and this information will be used

	<p>to populate the pandemic response system tracker. The inbox will be monitored daily, although weekend hours will be reduced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mental Health and Wellness –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Due to technical difficulties, this item will be deferred until January 13.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Remote Learning following the two-week Period – EDU</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ When schools return from the current two-week remote learning period, they will remain at Restricted Level (orange). One of the changes to this level is that the word “temporary” will be removed from the optional remote learning K-8.</li> <li>○ Remote learning has been offered for well over nine weeks. It is anticipated that schools will remain in the Restricted Level (orange) for the foreseeable future. Schools and School Divisions offering remote learning to K-Gr. 8 students who can be supported while learning at home may continue to do so for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.</li> <li>○ Offering remote learning on a more permanent bases aids in planning and provides stability in student programming.</li> <li>○ To minimize disruption to student learning, parents will be asked to commit to either in-class or remote learning.</li> <li>○ A Remote Learning Guidance document is forthcoming.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>School and Division Covid-10 Planning – EDU</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prior to school start in September, schools and school divisions were asked to develop plans for working under Restricted level (orange) and Critical level (red).</li> <li>○ The Department will be asking schools and school divisions to revisit and update their plans taking into consideration lessons learned, changes to the public health measures at Restricted Level (orange) and their own COVID-19 experiences as they have worked through the pandemic.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Other Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Educator Success Stories</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This item was not shared at the meeting however additional Educator Success Stories have been posted online.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>New Educator Success Stories have been posted at:  <a href="http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/success/index.html">www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/success/index.html</a> (English)  <a href="http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/m12/covid/reussite/index.html">www.edu.gov.mb.ca/m12/covid/reussite/index.html</a> (French)</p>
<p><b>4. Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>– Wednesday, January 13, 2021, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm</p>