

April 24, 2021

COVID-19 Update – IMPORTANT - Challenges for those moving to New Brunswick after April 24, 2021 due to new self-isolation requirements

Dear Members:

The Province of New Brunswick recently announced tighter self-isolation restrictions for all travellers entering the province **including for those moving to New Brunswick after Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 11:59 pm**. These new restrictions came as a surprise to NBREA, and we caution all REALTORS® that these new restrictions are likely to create challenges for any transactions in progress for clients who are moving to New Brunswick. This dispatch is intended to provide REALTORS® with the information currently available, so you can inform your clients who may be affected. NBREA will continue to monitor the situation and we will provide members with additional information as it becomes available.

NBREA is requesting NB REALTORS® complete a quick 1-minute survey to get a sense of how these new restrictions are impacting REALTORS® and their clients. Please read this entire dispatch before completing the survey. To access this survey please click the following link: [NBREA SURVEY – New Isolation Restrictions](#)

After April 24, 2021, all travellers returning from leisure travel, **anyone moving to New Brunswick**, and business travellers who are not rotational workers, truck drivers, or regular cross-border commuters will be required to self-isolate for at least seven days ***in a designated isolation hotel at their own expense***. The designated isolation hotels will be coordinated by the Canadian Red Cross to provide housing, food, medical needs, and security. It is anticipated that the cost to travellers will be approximately \$200 per day. **Currently, NBREA does not have information about which hotels are designated isolation hotels. For now, we suggest that members direct their questions to the Province of NB through the Travel Registration Program by calling 1-833-948-2800.** Alternatively, another number for COVID-19 inquiries is 1-844-462-8387, or email helpaide@gnb.ca. We would also like to remind you that all individuals entering New Brunswick must pre-register their travel with the [New Brunswick Travel Registration Program](#).

The Province has also indicated that travellers will be required to take a COVID-19 test on day five of their self-isolation and, upon receipt of a negative test result (which is anticipated to be received on day 7), they may complete the remainder of their self-isolation at their own home provided no other people are in that household. In addition, there will be a requirement to take a second COVID-19 test on day 10.

If you have transactions in progress for clients moving to New Brunswick, you are urged to inform them of these new restrictions. If your clients are not able or willing to comply with these new restrictions, you **may wish to consider, where possible, delaying the closing dates of those transactions or the moving date until these restrictions are lifted. Care should be taken when**

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delaying the closing date to ensure all parties are in agreement and that all legal requirements are met.

Rotational workers returning to New Brunswick are also required to self-isolate for 14 days separate from others regardless of their vaccination status. If they choose to self-isolate at home, everyone in the household must also isolate for 14 days.

Truck drivers and regular cross border commuters will be required to follow modified self-isolation requirements. These individuals must stay home except for medical needs or to pick up necessities of life as long as they can do so while avoiding all contact with others by using curbside pickup. Other members of the household are not required to self-isolate however, contact with the person self-isolating and contact with others should be minimized. **Because of this, REALTORS® should be very cautious working with any clients who are truck drivers or regular cross border commuters. NBREA recommends that all interactions with these individuals should be completed virtually** until these modified self-isolation rules are relaxed.

NBREA would also like to inform REALTORS® that the Province has announced that the minimum fine for violating the mandatory order is increasing from \$292.50 to \$580.50.

During this COVID-19 emergency when people are confronted with additional and unexpected situations, it is important to emphasize that the best thing everyone can do is to fairly and reasonably work with each other - Apply the Golden Rule and find reasonable solutions that everyone can live with. As circumstances arise, it is also suggested to advise your clients impacted to consult with their lawyers.

NBREA understands that these new requirements will place hardship on REALTORS® and their clients and we want REALTORS® to know that your association will be communicating its concerns to the Province of NB. While we certainly support the need to protect all New Brunswickers from the spread of COVID-19, including the new variants, we recognize that our members require additional guidance to continue to provide the essential service of conducting certain real estate transactions from April 25 until these added restrictions are relaxed.

Key Reminders (READ CAREFULLY AND PUT THESE INTO PRACTICE)

We ask all REALTORS® to please continue to be vigilant by following all public health guidelines including:

- stay home if you are sick.
- wash your hands regularly.
- maintain physical distancing (2 meters or 6 feet apart).
- wear non-medical masks.
- complete COVID-19 screening.
- regularly clean and disinfect high touch areas.
- retain proper contact tracing information.

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- consistently carrying out all the actions outlined in your up-to-date operational plan and keep a copy with you at all times (electronic or hard copy).
- If you have COVID-19 symptoms, **even if those symptoms are mild**, please use the self-assessment tool available on-line to determine if you should be tested for COVID-19. [Self-Assessment Tool](#); and
- Download the COVID-19 Alert App [Covid Alert App](#). If you have questions including privacy concerns about the COVID Alert App, please click [here](#).

Thank you for doing your part to protect your clients, your fellow REALTORS® and all New Brunswickers!