

March 14, 2022

## Communication – Re: COVID-19 Housing Reimbursement - Return to Shared Housing (Effective March 14, 2022)

On January 17, 2022, NOSM resumed the enhanced *COVID-19 Housing Reimbursement Protocol* that allowed for single occupancy housing to help alleviate safety concerns of sharing NOSM housing with other learners during the pandemic. As the Government of Ontario is moving forward with a number of changes to public health and workplace safety measures, <u>NOSM will return to a shared housing model effective March 14, 2022</u>. If you have already been approved for single-occupancy housing reimbursement until May 08, 2022, NOSM will continue to honour that commitment.

This will affect all NOSM learners performing core mandatory and elective clinical placements within the NOSM catchment area. This decision stipulates that all newly confirmed placements that are eligible for NOSM Housing will be placed in our shared housing model.

If a learner has an exceptional rationale for single-occupancy housing related to COVID-19, we ask that the learner communicate directly with Learner Support Services or a Learner Affairs Officer to seek guidance on how to request alternative solutions..

The NOSM Community Relations Unit (CRU) will continue to monitor the evolution of the pandemic and determine if alternative housing arrangements (such as a re-activation of the COVID Housing Reimbursement Protocol) are necessary for the overall safety of the learners. We will continue to work with the Programs (Undergraduate Medical Education, Postgraduate Medical Education, Health Sciences, Physician Assistant, and NODIP) to ensure that all learners are safe and supported while in the community.

Sincerely,

Joël Leduc

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