

# Press release

## *For immediate release*

### UPDATE ON COVID-19 FOR THE OUTAOUAIS AREA

**Gatineau, March 31 2020** – The CISSS de l'Outaouais announces that the count of confirmed cases in the area now stands at 50 cases. Of this number, fewer than five are located in rural areas of the Outaouais region. The Public health department's main concern is to protect these people who can be easily identified in small communities. For this reason, the CISSS de l'Outaouais does not confirm the sector or territory of these individuals.

Also, we would like to emphasize that each new confirmed case automatically triggers a rigorous investigation by the Public Health Department. The ultimate goal is to prevent the spread, so we quickly identify all the people who might have had contacts with a person affected by COVID-19 and advise them of the proper course of action. Our teams are therefore mobilized in order to prevent cases from multiplying from one another.

The CISSS de l'Outaouais is focusing all its efforts on the control of the Covid-19 pandemic. Regardless of the affected person's area of residence, the approach remains the same: seek out the people they've had contact with and notify them as soon as possible. The stigmatization of these individuals also remains a concern for our organization. These people infected with Covid-19 need first and foremost the support of the population and of our organization as they go through a stressful and unfamiliar situation with this new virus.

The CISSS de l'Outaouais is strongly encouraging the population to respect and to follow the government's isolation measures and to avoid non-essential travel. The collaboration of everyone is essential to the resolution of this pandemic crisis.

To learn more on the coronavirus, the population is invited to visit [quebec.ca/coronavirus](http://quebec.ca/coronavirus).

People with concerns about COVID-19 can contact Services Québec at the following information line: 819-644-4545.

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**For more information :**

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