Physical Distancing in Shelters and Respites

Common Areas

- Do not have non-essential visitors at your site; and screen all staff, clients and visitors upon entry
- Create a drop-off area or designated space to receive deliveries, limiting visitors walking through the facility
- Ensure intake/reception area or any offices in which there is staff and client interaction has marked 2m/6ft lateral separation
- Consider staggering toilets/washbasins in communal washrooms by closing every other one to create a 2m/6ft distance, where there is an adequate amount of toilets and washbasins
- Develop a protocol or schedule for use of laundry facilities to reduce and stagger client/staff interaction

Please Keep Your Physical Distance

General Tips

- Cancel any group programming with more than 5 participants, or any activity that does not support 2m/6ft physical distancing between participants, including all children’s programming
- Ensure Toronto Public Health resources are posted, including “Physical Distancing” posters
- Conduct regular rounds to identify and remedy any physical distancing issues such as cots or chairs that have been moved or congregating of groups
- Encourage clients to avoid all non-essential trips outside of the facility and to practice physical distancing outside of the facility
- Greet others with a wave, or a nod; instead of handshakes or hugs
- Use furniture to promote distancing (e.g. push tables together to create 2m/6ft distance) to widen the amount of space between clients
- Limit the number of people on an elevator to ensure 2m/6ft physical distancing