Physical Distancing in Shelters and Respites

Dining Areas

Where food service cannot be accommodated in a client’s own room, and must be served in a dining area:

- Limit the number of clients eating in a dining space at any given time
- Consider staggered meal times
- Place dining room chairs 2m/6ft apart from each other where possible
- Practice appropriate food handling techniques to avoid cross contamination
- Suspend all self-serve food options
- Plate and serve food while maintaining a distance of 2m/6ft
- Tape or mark the floor of food service lines to show 2m/6ft of spacing between clients queued for meal service

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
- 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