Vital steps that Nipissing University is taking to keep the campus community safe:

**Mandatory Face coverings:** Nipissing University expects that staff, faculty, students, contractors, and other visitors will wear a face covering while on campus. Indoors in all common spaces, and outdoors if physical distancing greater than 6-feet is not possible.

**Reducing the risk of person-to-person transmission:** Hierarchy of Control

The first level of protection **eliminates risk** by limiting the number of people attending the workplace. Nipissing’s phased return does just that, allowing for some departments to remain working remotely, and while staggering the return of those essential on-site services.

If physical distancing is not always possible, **engineering controls** like installing barriers such as plexiglass to separate people are an important second level of protection. Nipissing has reviewed all areas of the campus and has installed plexiglass in areas that will help prevent the spread of the virus.

The third level of protection uses **administrative controls** such as rules and guidelines to keep people physically separated. Signage has been installed across campus for elevators, common shared spaces, and washrooms. All stairwells have been reviewed and some identified as “up” or “down” only to promote physical distancing.
When the first three levels of protection are not enough to control people’s risk, the fourth and final level of protection is PPE. Non-medical masks, when worn properly, can reduce the spread of one’s own respiratory droplets. However, standard PPE is available and mandatory for those whose tasks require PPE.

**Cleaning Measures:** The facilities department follows the Ontario best practices with regards to using approved cleaning agents. They also follow recommendations of the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit. Our campus community shares the responsibility to ensure that their own office and lab spaces are kept clean.

- The standard cleaning product used on campus is a hydrogen-peroxide concentrate: Oxivir Plus Disinfectant Cleaner.
  - A proven effective disinfectant for killing 99.9% of viruses, included COVID-19
  - It is DIN (Drug Identification Number) registered. Environment Canada has tested and verified that this disinfectant is safe and effective
- High touch areas are disinfected frequently throughout the day;
- Washrooms are disinfected three (3) times a day;
- Washrooms cleaning checklists were developed for all campus washrooms
- All classrooms are deep cleaned twice a day;
- The deep cleaning product used on campus is Environize
- Faculty and staff are expected to continue to clean and maintain their own equipment including electronics, keyboard, mouse, office equipment;
- Faculty and staff are expected to keep mini fridges, coffee maker/Keurig and microwaves disinfected within their department (if applicable)
- Lysol disinfectant wipes and Canadian approved alcohol-based hand sanitizer are a regular item in our stores inventory;
- All points of entry to buildings on campus have hand sanitizer dispensers installed;
- More than 70 wall mounted hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed
- Hand sanitizer bottles and Lysol wipes are available in all operating classrooms

**Building Readiness:** Facilities department regularly maintain and inspect the University’s HVAC and water systems to ensure that they continue running to the very highest quality standards.

- Ventilation systems have preventative maintenance measures in place to ensure proper operation, including fresh air intake and return
- Our HVAC system operates at a compliant MERV rating of 8
- Air Handling unit schedules have been adjusted to increase run time for additional circulation
- Investments in specialized air purification units (Charcoal and HEPA filtration) for high-capacity classrooms.
Physical Distancing: Our campus community is required to practice physical distancing. All are required to stay two (2) meters apart when possible and wear a face covering to protect other members of our community.

In order to promote physical distancing on campus:

- A thorough review of the Harris Learning Library, The R.J. Surtees Athletic Centre and of the Education Centre was completed
- All classroom furniture has been reduced and strategically rearranged
- When possible classrooms have a designated entrance and exit
- The Harris Learning Library has reduced it’s seating capacity and all furniture has been rearranged
- The R.J. Surtees Athletic Centre has reduced it’s occupancy capacity based on provincial guidelines.
- All fitness rooms have had equipment removed and rearranged
- When possible fitness rooms have a designated entrance and exit

Safety Signage: The following signage has been installed across all campus buildings.
**Physical and Mental Health Supports:** We understand that we are living in difficult and challenging times. We know that balancing your work and home life is a constant struggle.

Remember to find time to take care of yourself and be kind to others.

If you need support, reach out we are here to support you:

- Aspiria - Employment Assistance Program
- Resources for Employees & Faculty, including tips for working from home
- Wellness events with a focus on mental, physical and financial well being

**COVID-19 Protocols:** Nipissing University, under the guidance from the North Bay Parry Sound District Public Health Unit and with government directives, has established several protocols to help protect the health and safety of the campus community.

- Face covering Policy
- COVID-19 Classroom Protocols
- COVID-19 Illness policy
- Research recovery guidelines