

## PROPER USE AND DISPOSAL OF MASKS

### **Putting on a Mask**

- Wash your hands before putting on a mask.
- Keep hair away from your face.
- Place the mask over your mouth and nose snugly. There should be no gap.
- Be sure it fits comfortably and that it's easy to breath, to avoid adjusting the mask while using it.
- Avoid touching your face and mask while using it.
- Do not share your mask with others.
- Do not leave your mask around your neck, hanging from your ear, or on your forehead.
- Do not put your used mask in your pocket because it is contaminated with germs. Put it in a plastic bag until you can wash it.

### **Taking Off a Face Mask**

- Change your mask as soon as it gets damp or soiled.
- Remove the mask without touching the outside of the mask.
- For reusable masks, put the mask directly in the laundry or a lined bin to be cleaned.
- Discard non-reusable masks by holding only the loops or strings and placing it in a lined garbage bin.
- Clean any surfaces that a dirty mask comes in contact with.
- Wash your hands thoroughly.

# **Cleaning Reusable Masks**

- Cloth masks should be cleaned after each use.
- Place your mask directly into the washing machine or a bag that can be emptied into the washing machine.
- Wash with other items using a hot cycle with laundry detergent (no special soaps are needed), and dry thoroughly.
- Wash your hands after putting the face covering into the laundry.

#### **Individuals Who Should Not Use Face Masks**

- · Children under the age of two
- Anyone who has trouble breathing
- Anyone who cannot remove the mask without assistance

<sup>\*</sup>Information obtained from Toronto Public Health Department and Public Health Ontario