



# COMMUNICATION MEMO

Office of the Director of Student Experience

**2020-03-19**

**MEMO:**        **Residence Update**

**TO:**            Students in Residence

**FROM:**        Dave Trudelle, Director of Student Experience

**CC:**            Staff, Faculty, Admin, Board

We know you've been wondering about residence options and planning. Given the recent suspension of face-to-face classes and exams for the winter semester, we are now able to answer these questions.

## Spring Term

**Spring Term will happen!** A detailed memo will be out tomorrow.

## Canadian Students

If you were originally scheduled to leave at the end of the term (April 22 move-out), you are now being asked to leave earlier if possible, in order to provide the University with increased capacity for social distancing in residence (if needed). With that in mind, **Canadian students who are able to move out of their residence room by Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> will receive a refund equivalent to one month of residence fees.**

We know that not everybody will be able to do this. We will work to support you if you have concerns about moving out by that date and we can discuss alternatives.

Meal plans: If you are a graduating student, we are working with Dana Hospitality on a refund of unused meal plan money. For those of you who are returning for future semesters we are arranging for your meal plan to rollover.

If you have any questions or concerns on moving out or your meal plan, please email [dave.trudelle@algomau.ca](mailto:dave.trudelle@algomau.ca).

The link for applying for spring/summer residence is: [Residence Application](#)

We understand that some **out-of-province Canadian students** may have difficulty getting home. We will put similar accommodations in place for you as we have for international students (please see details below).

If you leave, you will need to leave your room/townhouse clean and drop off your room key and mailbox key in the appropriate dropbox for your residence (Townhouses--in the laundry room, Res 3 and Res 4--in dropbox as you exit the buildings). Upon doing so, your room will be inspected and your refund will be processed. You will also receive your residence damage deposit of \$100.00 if your room is in good condition. A reminder to check your mailbox before departure. Any mail that arrives after your departure will be forwarded to you until April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please ensure the Office of the Registrar has your current mailing address or you can email: [housing@algomau.ca](mailto:housing@algomau.ca) with your updated address.

### **Move Out Form**

We are asking all residence students to fill out the [Residence Move Out Form](#) whether they are leaving early or not. This will help us understand who will be in residence.

### **International Students**

We are not asking international students to leave residence at this time. Should you wish to leave early, then you will also be eligible for the refund as long as you have moved out by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Please see instructions above on moving out.

We recommend all international students keep up to date on travel restrictions during this time. If you need to stay in residence past the normal April 22<sup>nd</sup> Winter Semester move-out date due to COVID-19 limiting your ability to travel home, you will be able to stay in residence without additional charge. Once travel restrictions are lifted we will give you adequate time to book your travel arrangements before you move out of residence.

If you are planning on taking courses during the Spring/Summer semester and would like to live in residence, please go to the [Residence Application](#).

### **Move Out Form**

We are asking all residence students to fill out the [Residence Move Out Form](#) whether they are leaving early or not. This will help us understand who will be in residence.

## **Food Services**

**The cafeteria will remain open from 11 am - 5 pm each day.**

Please note, there will be some changes to cafeteria operations as outlined below:

- Self serve items such as the salad bar, soup, pastries, etc. will not be offered. Instead, the cafeteria will prepare increased numbers of pre-packaged items for purchase.
- Utensils will no longer be self-serve but will be single serve.
- Take-home options will be made available in light of many restaurants in Sault Ste. Marie closing in case food delivery becomes difficult.

We are also working with the AUSU Food Pantry to set up a satellite location for students in residence, in the Housing Office. Students in residence will get an email when this is operational. We hope to have it operational by the end of the week.

## **Housing Office**

Housing Office hours will change to Monday-Friday, 1-4 pm for the foreseeable future. Any updates to housing office hours will be communicated.

## **Health and Wellness**

### **We continue to take preventative measures in residence**

An increased frequency of cleaning of all common areas and touchable surfaces (door handles, railings etc.) has been implemented during the course of each day. We've extended cleaning to provide coverage seven days a week.

### **We have a plan if someone in-residence tests positive for COVID-19**

As we continue to monitor the situation, we have put plans in place if there is a positive test of COVID-19 in residence. We continue to work with Algoma Public Health and follow recommendations regarding appropriate measures to protect the health and well-being of our residence students.

### **What should I do if I feel sick?**

Should you feel unwell, please contact Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000 to get advice on whether to see a doctor. If it is an emergency, please dial 9-1-1. If you need to see a doctor, please visit a local walk-in clinic or the [Sault Area Hospital](#). If you have concerns that you may have COVID-19, please contact [Algoma Public Health](#).

### **Sault Ste. Marie walk-in clinic information:**

[Station Mall Walk-in Clinic](#)

[West End Walk-in Clinic](#)

For students in need of support, or if you think you need to self-isolate, please email [healthservices@algomau.ca](mailto:healthservices@algomau.ca) or email [dave.trudelle@algomau.ca](mailto:dave.trudelle@algomau.ca).

### **Travel Restrictions**

The Government of Canada has issued a non-essential travel advisory for all international travel (this includes into the United States). If you travel internationally and return to residence, you must self-isolate for 14 days.

### **How can I protect myself from possible infection?**

- wash your hands frequently and well with soap and warm water;
- use alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth;
- cough or sneeze into your elbow, or cover your cough or sneeze;
- avoid close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness;
- stay home if you are sick and avoid contact with others;
- if you are sick, contact a health care provider about your symptoms and inform them of your travel history.

**For students in need of support**, please see our student services [memo](#) for contact information.