Frequently Asked Questions: Disclosure of Health Status or Information at Victoria University in the University of Toronto

The following FAQ (frequently asked questions) have been developed to address questions staff and students may have about the disclosure of health information and/or health status on the Victoria University campus. The University of Toronto and Victoria University are guided by Public Health directives. Procedures may evolve and change.

1. **Will staff be informed if a student in one of Victoria's residence buildings is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19?**

   All disclosures of COVID-19 symptoms, testing results and other personal health information will only be made on a voluntary basis and will be treated as confidential. Disclosures cannot be circulated or shared by staff except when necessary.

   The University must respect the privacy of students who are being tested or who have tested positive for COVID-19.

   The Environmental Health and Safety Office at the University of Toronto (EHS), in consultation with Toronto Public Health, and with the help of the Office of the Dean of Students, will perform all necessary investigations and provide direction in case management to the Victoria leadership, as deemed appropriate.

   If EHS determines that there is a risk to the community, they will work with Victoria leadership to inform the Victoria community, as necessary.

2. **Will staff be informed if someone on the Victoria campus has tested positive for COVID-19?**

   All disclosures of COVID-19 symptoms, testing results and other personal health information will only be made on a voluntary basis and will be treated as confidential.

   In consultation with Toronto Public Health, EHS performs all necessary investigations and provides direction to the Victoria leadership, as deemed

appropriate. Any cases reported on campus are registered [centrally at the University of Toronto and included in the U of T case totals](#).

3. **Will Victoria or the University of Toronto inform the Victoria community if an individual with a positive COVID-19 case was on campus?**

If Victoria is notified that an individual on the Victoria campus has tested positive for COVID-19, we will notify EHS. If EHS determines that there is a risk to the community, they will work with Victoria leadership to inform the Victoria community, as appropriate.

4. **What will happen if a student or staff member discloses that they have tested positive for COVID-19?**

All details of disclosures of COVID-19 symptoms, testing results and other personal health information will be treated as strictly confidential.

Victoria works closely with the University of Toronto's Environmental Health & Safety office (EHS). The EHS office, in turn, works with local public health officials on case management, conducts contact tracing and speaks directly with individuals who have been exposed to either a suspected or a confirmed case.

Whether an individual reports a confirmed case or tells us they have COVID-19 related symptoms without a confirmation Victoria University will be guided by EHS regarding notifications, disinfection plans and contact tracing. These notifications are provided out of an abundance of caution and do not signal elevated risk or require any further action by individuals, other than those who are contacted directly by EHS.