



MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty, University of Toronto Scarborough
From: Professor William A. Gough, Vice-Principal Academic & Dean
Date: 24 November 2022
Re: **Masks and Winter 2023 Planning**
Note: For broad distribution

A handwritten signature in cursive, appearing to read 'W. Gough', written in black ink.

Dear faculty,

Thank you for your continued excellent work in support of our students. I am writing with two updates related to the shift to winter weather:

1. The importance of mask wearing: At U of T Scarborough, consistent with provincial and municipal guidance, we have been strongly recommending masks in indoor settings where social distancing cannot easily be maintained since the start of classes in September. That recommendation has taken on particular importance in recent weeks with the increase of respiratory viruses, including COVID, and the resultant pressures on our health care system. We urge you to wear a mask if you are able and to help communicate this recommendation to your students as well to support the well-being of our whole community. Masks continue to be available at entrances to all buildings at U of T Scarborough and in classrooms.
2. Plans for classes in the case of a campus closure: If the campus is closed due to inclement weather, all classes - both in person and online - will be cancelled.

As we head into the final weeks of term, faculty and staff are navigating a range of challenges, including heightened support for students adjusting to in-person teaching and learning after repeated interruptions to their studies across multiple modalities. Please ensure that you are helping to connect students to appropriate campus resources and supports for academic and personal well-being. Thank you also for the work you are doing to provide continuity and access to course materials, whether through recordings, WebOption, notes, slides, or other tools, for students who are not able to be on campus due to illness.

If you are ill, please take the time you need to recover and ensure that information about any class cancellation is communicated in a timely way to students and the department. If you are dealing with a longer-term situation, please reach out to your Chair for guidance and support.

Thank you again for all you are doing in what continues to be a challenging time.