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Media Release

For Immediate Release

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Statewide Stay at Home Order Announced by Governor Murphy

*All non-essential retail businesses ordered to close by
9 p.m. tonight*

NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ (March 21, 2020) – The most far-reaching measure to-date to help stem the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak has been announced by Governor Phil Murphy. An Executive Order signed by the Governor today directs all New Jersey residents to stay at home until further notice, with certain special exceptions such as seeking medical attention or shopping for certain essential goods or services.

“We know the virus spreads through person-to-person contact,” stated the Governor, “and the best way to prevent further exposure is to limit our public interactions to only the most essential purposes.”

The order goes on to mandate the closure of all non-essential retail businesses to the public by 9 p.m. tonight. This also includes certain exceptions, such as grocery stores, pharmacies, gas stations, banks and other businesses deemed essential.

Also prohibited are all gatherings of individuals, such as parties, celebrations, or other social events. When in public, individuals must practice social distancing and stay at least six feet apart whenever possible with certain exclusions.

These new restrictions follow other Orders announced by the Governor earlier today that required the indefinite closure of all municipal, state, and county public libraries, including those located within all public and private higher education institutions.

A detailed list of the exceptions to the new Orders is available at a just-launched State Department of Health informational hub. The hub is available by visiting covid19.nj.gov or by visiting the City of New Brunswick [Office of Emergency Management](#) page.

The City of New Brunswick is the county seat for Middlesex County and home of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, the world headquarters for Johnson & Johnson and two globally-renowned hospitals. New Brunswick is an educationally-focused City as well as “The Healthcare City.”

All of New Brunswick’s developments provide seamless access to major transportation lines and an extensive dining scene and an arts district, located in its bustling downtown. The City is focused not only on bringing in new residents and businesses, but also on improving the lives of every one of its residents.

For more information, please visit www.cityofnewbrunswick.org.