Public Health Agency of Canada | Agence de la santé publique du Canada

June 17th, 2026
Chiefs of Police
Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police
300 Terry Fox Drive, unit 100
Kanata, Ontario K2K 0E3

Dear Chiefs,

I am writing on behalf of the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) regarding the ongoing Ebola outbreak affecting the Democratic Republic of the Congo and rising risks in Uganda and South Sudan and the measures being implemented to protect the health and safety of Canadians.

While the risk to Canadians remains low, Ebola virus disease is a serious and often fatal illness that requires a coordinated and proactive public health response. In light of the evolving situation, the Government of Canada has implemented enhanced border and post-border measures to minimize the risk of importation and ensure potential cases are identified, assessed, and managed quickly and effectively under the *Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to Ebola Disease in Canada Order, 2026*, issued under section 58 of the *Quarantine Act*.

As part of this response, PHAC is increasing its operational capacity to monitor compliance with public health measures for travellers arriving from affected regions. While the vast majority of travellers are expected to comply voluntarily with public health requirements, there may be limited circumstances where PHAC requires support from local law enforcement agencies to assist with compliance and enforcement activities.

Support may include conducting verification visits to a traveller's place of quarantine to confirm compliance and supporting enforcement activities, as appropriate. PHAC and local public health officials remain responsible for all health-related assessments, decisions, and direction.

Given the potential need for law enforcement support across multiple jurisdictions, we would appreciate the Chiefs of Polices' assistance in disseminating the information contained in this letter to your members, especially those representing major metropolitan police services, and other relevant policing partners. Early awareness will help ensure local services are informed should support be required.

We would also welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the current situation, outline proposed protocols and coordination mechanisms, and answer any questions regarding PHAC's anticipated operational requirements.

As a reminder, the *Quarantine Act* like other federal statute can be enforced by Peace Officers, as defined in s.2 of the *Criminal Code*. They can also issue contraventions tickets in provinces that have agreements with the federal government to enforce the federal contraventions regime (i.e., all provinces except Alberta and Saskatchewan and none of the territories). The applicable *Quarantine Act* provisions and short form descriptions can be found under Schedule XVI of the *Contraventions Regulations*. In Alberta, Saskatchewan and the territories, Peace Officers can use other enforcement action under the *Quarantine Act*.

Peace Officers are not required to contact PHAC before taking an enforcement. If law enforcement requires additional information on a traveller or has questions regarding the compliance verification and enforcement of the *Quarantine Act* or its Order, they can contact PHAC by email at PHAC.enforcement-ASPC.application@phac-aspc.gc.ca.

For more information on Ebola, please visit: Ebola disease: Prevention and risks - Canada.ca

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. We look forward to working collaboratively to ensure an effective and coordinated response.

Sincerely,

Brisebois, Luc

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Luc Brisebois
Director General, Border and Travel Health
Public Health Agency of Canada

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