

COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) PRECAUTIONS

LIST THE HAZARDS ON SITE

EXPLAIN DANGERS

In late 2019, a new coronavirus - since named SARS-CoV-2 - emerged, and by March 11, 2020 was declared a pandemic. The resulting respiratory illness and associated disease, known collectively as COVID-19, is highly contagious and the severity of this illness can vary from person to person.

WHO IS AT RISK FROM COVID-19? The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) continues to advise that the risk to the general population in Canada remains low, but this could change rapidly. People at increased risk include those:

- aged 65 and over;
- with compromised immune systems; or
- with underlying medical conditions

There are, however, steps you can take to prevent the spread of infection.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19? According to PHAC, symptoms can appear in as little as a few days or as long as 14 days after being exposed to someone with the disease. Coronaviruses can cause a range of symptoms including fever, cough, sore throat, and shortness of breath.

For some people, the symptoms are like having a cold; for others, they are quite severe or even life-threatening. It is important to check with your healthcare provider and follow instructions about staying home or away from public spaces to prevent the spread of the virus.

How does the coronavirus spread? The virus typically spreads through coughing and sneezing, personal contact with an infected person, or touching an infected surface and then the mouth, nose, or eyes.

IDENTIFY CONTROLS

STAY HOME WHEN FEELING ILL

If you detect symptoms, you should immediately distance yourself from others and go home—without using public transit, if possible. Ensure supervisors are notified so that they are aware of the situation and can notify others who may have been exposed.

Anyone who suspects that they have contracted COVID-19 should call the provincial health authority instead of going to the hospital or a family doctor. Once connected, a healthcare professional will provide essential information.

PROVINCIAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES:

Manitoba (888-315-9257)

Ontario (866-797-0000)

All other provinces (8-1-1)

PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE

Health Canada recommends following basic hygiene practices:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If using hand sanitizers, they must be alcohol based (with greater than 60% alcohol) to be effective.
- Sneeze or cough into a tissue and discard it.
- Use a clean tissue or your knuckle to touch light switches, doors, elevator buttons, etc.

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MAINTAIN PHYSICAL DISTANCING

COVID-19 is spread through contact. Whenever possible, keep a safe distance between individuals to prevent exposure, ideally a distance of 2 metres (6 feet). Note: if you are unable to maintain physical distancing, other precautions (e.g. face coverings) may be required.

BE PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY SITUATION

Stock up on essentials, but avoid panic buying. To prepare for emergency situation, you should have the following on hand:

- Soap, facial tissues, paper towels, alcohol based hand sanitizer, household cleaning products, and regular detergents for washing dishes and doing laundry
- Fever-reducing medications, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen
- Plastic garbage bags for containing soiled tissues and other waste
- Bleach to create a solution of 1-part bleach to 9-parts water for disinfecting surfaces.

Remember to refill your prescriptions and consider renewing them ahead of time.

DEMONSTRATE

With your crew:

- Demonstrate proper hand-washing procedures with soap and water.
- Evaluate areas where people have frequent contact with each other and shared objects to make sure that proper hygiene can be maintained.
- Review emergency risks in your region and discuss how to prepare for different situations.
- Discuss methods of physical distancing that can be applied in various scenarios.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Government of Canada COVID-19 information:

1-833-784-4397

www.canada.ca/coronavirus

Boilermaker COVID-19 Updates:

www.boilermaker.ca/COVID19

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