FACTS ABOUT COVID-19

WHAT IS CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)?

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China.

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

HOW DOES COVID-19 SPREAD?

The virus that causes COVID-19 probably emerged from an animal source, but is now spreading from person to person. The virus is thought to spread mainly between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It also may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19?

Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of fever, cough and shortness of breath.

WHAT ARE SEVERE COMPLICATIONS FROM THIS VIRUS?

Some patients have pneumonia in both lungs, multi-organ failure and in some cases death.

HOW CAN I HELP PROTECT MYSELF?

People can help protect themselves from respiratory illness with everyday preventive actions.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

IF YOU ARE SICK, TO KEEP FROM SPREADING RESPIRATORY ILLNESS TO OTHERS, YOU SHOULD

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I RECENTLY TRAVELED OUTSIDE OF CANADA?

Currently, the federal government has implemented a global travel advisory: Avoid non-essential travel outside Canada until further notice. Check to see if your destination has an active travel health notice at **www.canada.ca/coronavirus**. If you've recently traveled outside Canada, you may have come in contact with COVID-19. Consult with your provincial public health agency to see what the self-quarantine or self-monitoring requirements are for your province. If you have even mild symptoms, stay home and contact your provincial public health authority to inform them. They will provide advice on what you should do.

Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness with primary symptoms of fever, cough and shortness of breath.

IS THERE A VACCINE?

There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to take everyday preventive actions, like avoiding close contact with people who are sick and washing your hands often.

IS THERE A TREATMENT?

There is no specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19. People with COVID-19 can seek medical care to help relieve symptoms.

BCA
BOILERMAKER CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF BOILERMAKERS
BOILERMAKER.CA/COVID19