

IHSA Guidance for winter considerations during COVID-19

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Overview

During the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak, we all need to do our part to keep workers, customers, and the public safe and healthy so we can stop the spread and continue to reopen the province. As conditions change during the winter season, it is vital that we continue to take an active role in being diligent with COVID-19 prevention.

Below are a set of resources, tips and best practices to help employers and workers prevent the spread of COVID-19 and work together to safely continue the reopening of the province. Not only do we tend to stay indoors more because of the cold, but viral transmission may also be impacted. As we now enter the winter season, considerations need to be made to ensure workplaces are prepared for some of the potential new impacts to consider due to COVID-19. The winter season brings additional challenges when dealing with COVID-19 such as an increase in indoor gatherings, the need for additional clothing and weather protection (i.e. gloves) and more.

Employers and workers in Ontario have certain duties and rights under *the Occupational Health and Safety Act* (OHSA) and its regulations. Employers should also review and follow any applicable directives and guidance coming from the Chief Medical Officer of Health and Ministry of Health.

Learn more about:

- [workers' rights](#)
- [employers' responsibilities](#)

You should also regularly check for requirements applicable to your region, such as:

- the provincial COVID-19 Response Framework
- municipal bylaws
- orders from your local public health unit

To help prevent outbreaks, you are encouraged to develop a COVID-19 [workplace safety plan](#). All businesses operating in a region in lockdown are required to have one under provincial regulation.

[Report](#) COVID-19 case(s) in the workplace to the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development.

Best practices

Recognize hazards and assess risks: The first step to controlling risks in a workplace is to identify the risks. This applies to all workplace hazards, not just COVID-19. Identifying and controlling workplace hazards is required of all employers in Ontario under the [Occupational Health and Safety Act](#) and its regulations. The key risk factors for COVID-19 transmission include:

- prolonged exposure – spending more time with potentially infected people
- close proximity – working close to others
- crowded places – having more people in a space
- closed spaces – indoor spaces with less fresh air exchange (working indoors is riskier than working outdoors)
- forceful exhalation – activities that cause people to breathe more deeply, such as exercise, speaking loudly and singing

It is possible for COVID-19 to be spread by people who do not have any symptoms. This makes effective control measures very important. We must act as if everyone is infected when setting up controls.

The risk of severe health outcomes is not the same for all workers. The risk increases with age and is higher for people with [certain medical conditions](#).

COVID-19 background and update for winter season

COVID-19 presents a new challenge for employers, workers, and workplaces. The scientific understanding of the virus improves almost daily through new peer-reviewed literature, informing recommendations and guidelines.

COVID-19 differs from most workplace hazards because people are the source of exposure. Rather than eliminating or isolating a machine or chemical process, workplaces must minimize close contact and avoid sustained interactions between people to reduce the probability of exposure and transmission. This presents a new and unique challenge for most workplaces.

Additionally, COVID-19 can be contracted both inside and outside of the workplace. When contracted at work, COVID-19 can potentially impact many people outside of work, including individuals who may be elderly, immunocompromised, or otherwise high risk, including the worker's immediate family and the broader community. COVID-19 demonstrates the close connection between occupational health and public health.

The cold temperature and lower humidity levels may affect the transmission of COVID-19. This reinforces the need to maintain physical distancing at all times and wear masks or other face coverings when in public places. Another important recommendation is to avoid congregating indoors where possible and consider ventilation. Good ventilation is always important in indoor environments for the general health and comfort of the occupants so best practices should be

considered at all times.

The hierarchy of controls should be used to select controls to reduce transmission risk in the workplace. Specific guidance is needed for workplaces as they adapt to a new and evolving hazard, which – if poorly handled – may have implications for public health more broadly.

Additional resources:

- [CSA Group: Workplaces and COVID-19: Occupational Health and Safety Considerations for Reopening and Operating During the Pandemic](#)
- [Hierarchy of Controls - Develop Your COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan](#)
- [IHSA/MLTSD Webinar: Developing Your COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan](#)
- [Government of Ontario: Workplace Exposure and Illness](#)
- Public Health Ontario: [COVID-19: Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning \(HVAC\) Systems in Buildings](#)
- US National Library of Medicine: [Cold working environments as an occupational risk factor for COVID-19](#)
- Public Health Ontario: [COVID-19 Routes of Transmission – What We Know So Far](#)

Controls

Infection prevention and control measures prevent the spread of the virus by breaking the chain of transmission. For example, [public health guidance](#) recommends keeping at least two metres away from others, washing hands often to remove the virus and that people avoid touching their faces with contaminated hands.

For COVID-19 in the workplace, it is recommended that employers and business owners conduct a risk assessment to determine the most appropriate controls and actions for a particular workplace/situation. Reference the [IHSA's guide](#) on the risk assessment process to help facilitate this and review [Sample 1](#) and [Sample 2](#) for examples.

Always start by considering the most effective controls first. It is best to begin by trying to eliminate the hazard – to remove it from the workplace altogether. Where that is not possible, use multiple engineering and administrative controls first to prevent the spread. Protective equipment (including personal protective equipment (PPE) and source control masking) should be relied on only where engineering and administrative controls do not sufficiently reduce the risk to workers.

In addition to the above recommendations, employers should determine whether PPE* needs to be part of their hazard control plan. The need for PPE should be based on a risk assessment taking into account environmental conditions and considering input from the local public health unit. Although proper use of PPE can help prevent some exposures, it should not take the place of other control measures. Note: If physical distance and separation cannot be maintained, workers should have PPE consisting of surgical/procedure mask and eye protection (goggles or face shield).

- Workers must use PPE as required by their employer.
- Workers must be trained on the proper use and care and limitations, of any required PPE.

*NOTE: Please be reminded that most face coverings (specifically many non-medical masks such as cloth masks) have not been tested to a known standard and do not constitute PPE. In some circumstances, non-medical masks may be used as an effective means of source control but should not be viewed as an appropriate substitute for physical distancing in the workplace.

Additional resources:

- [IHSA COVID-19 Risk Assessment Magazine Supplement](#)
- [IHSA: General COVID-19 Links and Resources](#)

COVID-19 winter-related controls

Screen for COVID-19:

[Screening for COVID-19: guidance for employers | Ontario.ca](#)

This document provides employers with an overview of workplace screening for COVID-19 and information to help them make decisions about the use of rapid antigen screening.

Screening helps keep infected workers and others from entering the workplace thereby reducing possible workplace transmission.

- Question-based screening uses information about symptoms and exposures to identify people who may be infectious.
- Rapid antigen screening is used to help identify people who are infectious before they develop symptoms.

To further protect workers and help reduce transmission, workers who have passed screening must continue to follow all public health and workplace control measures including masking and maintaining physical distance.

Maintain physical distancing

Regardless of the time of year, all workers need to maintain physical distancing. Physical distancing means maintaining a distance of at least two metres (six feet) or more between persons. By maintaining physical distancing, you are less likely to be exposed to a respiratory virus. The cold temperature and lower humidity levels may affect the transmission of COVID-19. This reinforces the need to maintain physical distancing at all times and wear masks or other face coverings when in public places.

Additional resources:

- Medical News Today: [How does the weather affect COVID-19?](#)
- The Centre for Evidence Based Medicine: [Do weather conditions influence the transmission of the coronavirus \(SAR-CoV-2\)?](#)

For more information, visit: ihsa.ca/COVID-19

Staggered start and end times

To avoid congestion at the start and end of shifts consider incorporating staggered shift start and stop times. This will assist with large numbers of workers arriving at the same time and help to eliminate any screening delays or unnecessary line-ups at the elevators.

Additional resources:

- [IHSA: Increase Space by Staggering Lunch Breaks Poster](#)

Signage

Organizations are encouraged to continue posting signage throughout their facilities and updating them as needed throughout the winter season. These signs can include reminders for (but not limited to):

- physical distancing
- maximum occupancy (for meeting rooms, lunch areas, elevators etc.)
- hygiene reminders

Additional resources:

- [IHSA COVID-19 Resources – Products](#)
- IHSA COVID-19 posters for the [Construction](#), [Utility](#) and [Transportation](#) sectors

Hand washing

Proper hand washing significantly reduces the transfer of the coronavirus. Many people frequently touch their face out of habit, and the face is a significant point of entry for the virus. Airborne debris such as dust from work tasks may make people more likely to touch their face. Ensuring you have properly washed or sanitized your hands (and have done this often) can help prevent self-contamination when you touch your face. When wearing work gloves or winter gloves it is recommended that you wash your hands before and after wearing gloves as well.

Note: If using hand sanitizers, they must be alcohol-based hand sanitizer, with 60-90% alcohol, approved by Public Health Ontario and Ministry of Health.

Additional resources:

- [Public Health Ontario: Hand Hygiene](#)
- [IHSA Hand Washing \(Indoor Plumbing\) Video](#)
- [IHSA Hand Washing \(Outdoor Plumbing\) Video](#)

Surface cleaning/disinfecting

During the winter season it continues to be essential to practice the following general cleaning and hygiene controls:

- **Clean and disinfect surfaces** that people touch often. Shared spaces such as site trailers, lunchrooms, kitchens, and washrooms should be cleaned more often.

- **Use damp cleaning methods** such as damp cloths and/or a wet mop instead dusting or sweeping.
- **Clean** surfaces with soap and water to remove all visible debris, stains, and some of the germs. Follow labeled instructions and safety data sheets on all containers of cleansing products you use.
- **Disinfect.** Many disinfecting products are available to buy; however, they may be difficult to obtain under extreme demand. You can make your own by mixing a water and bleach solution. Follow the manufacturer's directions for the cleaning products being used, including mixing ratios, contact time and any other directions on use.

Make sure to take appropriate precautions with the chemicals/products used for cleaning and disinfecting.

- **Protect yourself** when cleaning/sanitizing. Ensure you wear PPE to protect yourself from chemical exposure. This includes waterproof gloves to protect your hands, and a face shield and mask to protect your eyes, face, and mouth. Wear coveralls to protect your clothing.
- **Remove disposable PPE** and discard into appropriate garbage, following site protocols. Clean any reusable PPE as required, following manufacturer's directions.
- **Wash your hands** after removing all PPE.

Additional resources:

- [IHSA Guidance of tool sharing \(hand tools\) constructor/employer procedure during COVID-19](#)
- [IHSA Guidance on on-site sanitation during COVID-19](#)
- [IHSA Guidance on cleaning and disinfecting tools and equipment during COVID-19](#)

Eye protection and glasses

During the winter months, we must consider options that prevent fogging while using a source control or PPE mask with eye protection or glasses. Any worker who is within 2 metres of an unmasked person without a barrier must wear eye protection. In the event that you are required to wear safety glasses, a face shield, or prescription glasses, please consider using:

- a mask with an adjustable nose piece to allow for a closer fit to the face
- individual anti-fogging sprays/wipes
- safety glasses and face shields with anti-fogging coatings
- anti-fog film applied to PPE
- safety goggles or gasketed safety eyewear

Additional resources:

- Learn more about [using masks in the workplace](#) including how to select, care for and use them to protect workers from COVID-19.

Source control masks

To address the issue of masks becoming damp from condensation when worn in the winter months, it is recommended to pack extra cloth masks or use disposable masks that can be changed as often as necessary throughout the day. Remember to appropriately remove and store or dispose of any used masks or face covers. Re-usable masks should be thoroughly cleaned after use and not shared. Once used, they should be placed in a bag/sealed container to keep separate, then washed with detergent before re-use.

A source control mask can be [homemade](#) or purchased and should:

- be made of at least 2 layers of tightly woven fabric, such as cotton or linen
 - a third (middle) layer of filter-type fabric, such as non-woven polypropylene fabric can be considered to provide an extra layer of filtration
- be large enough to completely and comfortably cover the nose, mouth, and chin without gapping
- allow for easy breathing
- fit securely to the head with ties or ear loops
- be comfortable and not require frequent adjustments
- be changed as soon as possible if damp or dirty
- maintain its shape after washing and drying.

Additional resources:

- [Ontario: Using Masks in the Workplace](#)
- [Government of Canada: Non-Medical Masks and Face Coverings – How to Put On, Remove and Clean](#)

Gloves

Gloves may be worn in the winter to keep the hands warm and may be needed for work tasks (e.g. work gloves). Gloves may become contaminated by touching surfaces and objects, in the same way as your hands could become contaminated. Think of your gloves in the same way as your unwashed hands. Be careful not to touch your face while wearing gloves.

Whether gloves are worn or not, hand hygiene is the most important action to prevent any contaminated material from getting from your hands to your eyes, nose or mouth.

It is important to wash or disinfect your hands once you have removed the gloves. Disposable gloves are not recommended for COVID-19 prevention outside of health care. Where gloves are not needed for other purposes, it is recommended to keep hands bare and wash or sanitize hands regularly.

Additional considerations when wearing gloves:

- Be conscious of what surfaces you touch.
- Do not touch your face or eyes with your gloves.
- Do not share gloves.

For more information, visit: ihsa.ca/COVID-19

- If possible, it is recommended to wash the gloves (following any washing instructions for the gloves) on a regular basis in order to prevent the spread of the virus. Follow these steps to help protect from potential germs/viruses on your gloves:
 1. Let your gloves air dry instead of keeping them balled up in your pockets.
 2. Wash gloves often. You can even use a disinfectant wipe for some fabrics.
 3. Be conscious not to touch your face with your gloves.

Additional Resource:

- Government of Canada: [The Benefits of Hand Washing](#)

Worker mental health awareness

During the COVID-19 pandemic many workers continue working in their regular jobs. This may include working long hours, and in some industries, being away from friends and family for extended periods of time. During the winter season some workers may feel additional pressure and stress resulting from things like changing road and weather conditions, less daylight hours, etc. Here are some additional controls to support your mental health:

- Schedule virtual interactions with friends and family regularly to help you stay connected with your network.
- Evaluate and determine how much and what type of news you consume during your work day. Avoid listening to all COVID-related news. Try listening to music or motivational content.
- Take care of your personal well-being and remember that if you need help, it is ok to ask for it. Most companies have resources to help staff manage through mentally challenging times. Check with your supervisor for more details. There are also a variety of government funded programs available as well.
- If extended travel is part of your role, ensure you get sufficient rest while away from home. Proper rest is essential for good mental health and even more so during the winter season.
- Create an exercise routine to practice while away from home (if applicable) and when back at home. A scheduled exercise routine will support mental health, sleep, and overall health.

Additional resources:

- [IHSA Guidance on Mental Health Awareness for Transport Drivers during COVID-19](#)
- [Toronto General and Western Hospital Foundation: Mental health tips and resources to help you cope](#)

Fueling vehicles

The need to stop your vehicle for refueling, meals, breaks etc. will continue through the winter season. During these times it is even more important to ensure you practice the following controls:

- Wipe down the fuel pump area (and any other areas you may come into contact with) with disinfectant wipes.
- Practice good hand hygiene before entering the gas station/rest stop and when you return to your vehicle. Ensure that you wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, with 60-90% alcohol, approved by Public

For more information, visit: ihsa.ca/COVID-19

Health Ontario and Ministry of Health.

Additional resources:

- [IHSA Guidance on fueling of vehicles during COVID-19](#)

Interacting with shippers and receivers

Many industries and workers continue to interact with shippers and receivers as a part of their daily activities. Consider how the cold and weather may affect any controls which have been used to minimize interactions. Throughout the winter season it is important to adhere to the following controls to ensure that you and anyone you are exposed to stay safe:

- Always wear a source control mask indoors and for any interactions with shippers and receivers, and require that face coverings are worn by anyone you interact with.
 - Pack extra face coverings as they may become wet and uncomfortable during the winter season when exiting the vehicle at a shipper/receiver location.
- Set up processes for contactless transfer of goods.
- When possible, use technology to send and receive paperwork (e.g., scanning equipment and electronic proof of delivery).
- Do not share materials like pens and styluses.
- Clean and disinfect any areas of your vehicle that others may have touched.

Additional resources:

- [IHSA Guidance on handling and receiving packages \(all persons at work or at home\) during COVID-19](#)
- [IHSA Guidance on worker procedures \(handling paperwork\) during COVID-19](#)
- [IHSA Guidance on shipping and receiving during COVID-19](#)

Shared tools and equipment

The sharing of tools and equipment is a common practice in many industries. Due to the increased risk of transmission through exposed surfaces, protocols need to be implemented to ensure that proper cleaning and disinfection of these tools is maintained. During the winter season, the following considerations should be taken:

- Provide a warm area to clean, disinfect, and dry tools. It will be essential to plan for a location and size of room that will adequately hold the tools while allowing for physical distancing during cleaning.

Additional resources:

- [IHSA Guidance on tool sharing \(hand tools\) constructor/employer procedure during COVID-19](#)
- [IHSA Guidance on cleaning and disinfecting tools and equipment during COVID-19](#)

Clean-up facilities and washrooms

An essential requirement for preventing the spread of germs on remote work sites is access to toilets with clean-up facilities. Provide (or arrange for) water-flush toilets that are connected to a

For more information, visit: ihsa.ca/COVID-19

sanitary sewer, or chemical-flush toilets that are not connected to a sanitary sewer. For most industry work sites (e.g. construction projects), it is expected that clean-up facilities with hot and cold water will be provided. The following should be considered during the winter:

- Additional heated washing facilities may be necessary to facilitate cleaning and disinfecting to follow on-site COVID-19 protocols. It is important to note that only having cold water for hand washing during the winter may make workers less likely to wash their hands and increase the risk of transmission.
- If soap and water are not available, apply a waterless hand cleaner and remove visible soiling with paper towel, then reapply alcohol-based hand sanitizer, with 60-90% alcohol, approved by Public Health Ontario and Ministry of Health.

Note: Hand sanitizer is not as effective on heavily soiled hands.

Additional resources:

- [MLTSD: Preventing Infectious Diseases on Construction Projects](#)
- [IHSA Guidance on construction facility hygiene during COVID-19](#)
- [IHSA Guidance on construction facility hygiene during COVID-19](#)
- [IHSA Guidance on providing truck drivers access to washrooms during COVID-19](#)

Meetings and classroom training

During the winter season, it is more likely that any meetings or training will take place indoors, increasing the risk of exposure among participants. This increases the need to practice physical distancing along with the following controls if you are participating in any classroom training or meetings.

- Confirm that anyone entering the facility has successfully passed your company's active screening policies for COVID-19.
- Wear any required PPE as determined by your company policies.
- Wear a source control mask while in shared spaces.
- Maintain physical distancing. Everyone in Ontario should be practicing physical distancing to reduce their exposure to other people. They should do their best to avoid close contact with people outside of their immediate families. Close contact includes being within 2 metres (6 feet) of another person.
- Limit your use of elevators where possible or ensure that you are maintaining proper physical distancing in an elevator.
- Practice good personal hygiene and sanitization of work areas while indoors. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after the meeting and regularly sanitize any areas that you may come into contact with.

Additional resources:

- [IHSA Guidance on in-person classroom training during COVID-19](#)
- [IHSA On-Demand Webinar – Guidance on in-person classroom training during COVID-19](#)

In-vehicle training and mentoring

Organizations that require any kind of driver training and mentoring need to continue to exercise caution when there is more than one person in the vehicle. Consider the following controls during

For more information, visit: ihsa.ca/COVID-19

any in-vehicle driver training or mentoring:

- Confirm that anyone entering the vehicle has successfully passed your company's active screening policies for COVID-19.
- Have all people in the vehicle wear a source control mask.
- Wear any required PPE as determined by your company policies.
- Select the fresh air mode on the ventilation system to avoid recirculating air.
- Keep windows open where possible. It is recognized that this may be more difficult in winter weather.
- Clean and disinfect the vehicle between drivers and before and after any trips or demonstrations where more than one person is entering the vehicle.
- Use observation training for any fully licensed drivers. This includes the instructor/mentor following at a safe distance in a separate vehicle and providing feedback and coaching after the trip is completed.

Additional resources:

- [IHSA Guidance on in-vehicle driver safety during COVID-19](#)
- [IHSA On-Demand Webinar – In-vehicle driver training safety practices during COVID-19](#)

Remote working locations, site trailers, meeting rooms and break/lunch rooms

Some businesses use site office trailers for a variety of purposes including as a reception area, for office work, and as lunch rooms or meeting rooms. These are places where people gather or pass through, and they present a potential hazard for coming into contact with the virus.

During the winter months, trailers and meeting rooms might be closed-in to maintain a warm temperature for the workers and may lack adequate ventilation. This increases the risk of virus transmission. Depending on the size of the trailer, it may be difficult to maintain physical distancing. Given this possibility, consideration should be given to optimizing mechanical and natural ventilation in the workplace, particularly in locations where prolonged close contact occurs.

Where possible, it is recommended that workers have the ability to take breaks and eat lunch separately. Where practical, in addition to the trailers, designate different areas of the facility as break areas to allow physical distancing.

- Open the windows to increase air circulation when possible.
- Air cleaning can assist with mitigating transmission. Some air cleaning options include mechanical air filters, electronic air filters and UV-C systems. These systems must be installed correctly for safe operation, and must be properly maintained.
- Continue to encourage physical distancing of staff in the lunchroom/lunch area.
- Ensure that there is access to soap and water or hand sanitizer in break rooms and lunchrooms.
- Remind staff to wash hands thoroughly before entering the lunchroom and again before leaving.
- Request staff not leave used containers in the common areas.
- Add additional site trailers to be used exclusively for breaks and lunches.

For more information, visit: ihsa.ca/COVID-19

It is also recommended that workplaces continue to stagger breaks and lunches. During the winter months it may be more difficult for workers to find locations outdoors to take a break so limiting the number of people in common areas through staggered breaks and lunches will help with physical distancing.

Additional resources:

- Ontario: [Meal and break periods at work during COVID-19](#)
- [IHSA Guidance on construction site trailers during COVID-19](#)
- [IHSA Guidance on lunchroom practices during COVID-19](#)
- [MLTSD Poster: Your break is not a break from COVID safety](#)
- [MLTSD Poster: Keep it to yourself during COVID](#)
- [MLTSD Poster: COVID should not be on the menu at lunch](#)
- [Ontario: Meal and break periods at work during COVID-19](#)

Evaluate

Changes to work procedures or practices related to COVID-19 may affect the way you have routinely managed other risks in the workplace. Thus, it is recommended that you consider the various preventative measures on an ongoing basis, and review and adjust accordingly if they are not working as intended or have created new risks or challenges. Ask for feedback, recommendations, and suggestions from your workforce and subject matter experts who are performing the tasks. Refer to Question 6 in the [COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan](#).

Continuously monitor the necessary tools, supplies, and equipment needed to meet your control measures. Also ensure sufficient supplies are readily available, adequate, and accessible:

- winter gloves
- work gloves
- cleaning gloves
- hand sanitizer
- disinfectant wipes
- clear plastic bags
- extra pens
- cell phone with camera and charger cable
- personal hygiene kit

Vaccines:

[COVID-19 vaccines and workplace health and safety | Ontario.ca](#)

This guidance document explains how vaccines work to protect you when you are vaccinated, why COVID-19 workplace control measures need to be maintained even after workers are vaccinated, and some considerations for employers about workplace policies and supporting their workers to get vaccinated.

Workplace controls are measures that employers use to help prevent workers from being exposed to hazards like those posed by COVID-19. Vaccines are a good complement to workplace controls, but cannot replace them. They have different purposes:

- Workplace controls help prevent workers from being exposed to COVID-19.
- Vaccines help protect workers from getting sick if they are exposed.

To protect workers and help reduce the chance of COVID-19 transmission at the workplace, it is important to maintain workplace control measures even after vaccination.

Self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure.

Resources

Stay updated with daily government updates:

- **Government of Ontario**
- **Government of Canada**
- **Public Health Ontario**

Ontario government and agency-issued resources about COVID-19

Develop your COVID-19 workplace safety plan: Learn how you can create a plan to help protect your workers and others from novel coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19).

Workplace Safety Plan

The **Ontario Ministry of Health** is providing consistent updates on the provincial government's response to the outbreak, including:

- status of cases in Ontario
- current affected areas
- symptoms and treatments
- how to protect yourself and self-isolate
- updated Ontario news on the virus

Public Health Ontario is providing up-to-date resources on COVID-19, including:

- links to evolving public health guidelines, position statements and situational updates
- synopsis of key articles updating on the latest findings related to the virus
- recommendations for use of personal protective equipment
- information on infection prevention and control
- testing information
- other public resources

Other COVID-19 resources

Health Canada outlines the actions being taken by the Government of Canada to limit spread of the virus, as well as what is happening in provinces and communities across the country. It also maintains a live update of the number of cases by province.

For more information, visit: ihsa.ca/COVID-19

The [World Health Organization](#) is updating the latest guidance and information related to the global outbreak and spread beyond Canadian borders.

It also provides the most up-to-date information on:

- current research and development around the virus
- a COVID-19 situation “dashboard”
- emergency preparedness measures
- live media updates on the spread of the virus

This resource does not replace the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* (OHSA) and its regulations, and should not be used as or considered legal advice. Health and safety inspectors will apply the law based on the facts in the workplace.