

**Date:** Monday, March 16, 2020  
**To:** Camp Administrator (Management/Medical Center Person in Charge)  
**From:** Medical Officers of Health, Alberta Health Services  
**Subject:** COVID-19 Guidance for Work Camps

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We thank you for your interest and support in ensuring COVID-19 is not spread in your work environments. Please find our guidance, as follows:

### **Symptom Management:**

If an employee living in a work camp has symptoms of cough, runny nose, fever or sore throat, or meets any of the following COVID-19 screening criteria: <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/info/ppih/if-ppih-ncov-case-def.pdf>, they should:

- Immediately self-isolate
- They must be isolated in their own room, with their own bathroom (if possible), and have meals delivered to them in their room.
- Inform the most responsible person at their site immediately, as per work camp policy. This person must notify AHS Public Health promptly for further assessment.
- For self-isolation guidance, please visit [www.alberta.ca/covid19](http://www.alberta.ca/covid19).

As always, if an individual is experiencing difficulty breathing requiring immediate health care, please call 911 and inform them that the individual could have COVID-19.

### **Public Transportation:**

As a precautionary measure, employees living in work camps should be assessed prior to using public transportation (e.g. bus, aircraft) to travel to/from their work camp for their shift.

Employers should not allow anyone to travel using public transportation (e.g., bus, aircraft) while symptomatic. Employees and employers should work together to explore alternate transport arrangements for these symptomatic individuals. If the person can be safely transported to another home setting without posing a risk to others, this may be considered on a case-by-case basis in consultation with Public Health.

### **Post-Travel Isolation Requirements:**

Individuals without symptoms who have returned from travel outside of Canada are also being advised to self-isolate for 14 days and not come to work.

If symptoms develop in that time, they should call Health Link 811 for further advice.

Individuals requiring emergency medical assistance should call 911 and let them know that they meet the COVID-19 exposure criteria so they can make appropriate arrangements to care for them safely.

Employees may return to their usual activities only when advised to do so by Public Health. Please also continue to monitor unusual/unexpected illness and report to Public Health as usual.

**Standard Infection Prevention Measures:**

To help minimize spread of any respiratory virus we recommend the following:

- Wash your hands with soap and water often. If soap and water are not readily available, you can use alcohol-based hand sanitizer, if hands are not visibly dirty.
- Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are used often and shared by everyone such as door knobs, light switches and bathroom taps.

Employees in self-isolation should also practice these infection control measures to prevent spreading disease.