Membership Briefing Note
COVID-19 UPDATE 9.0, MARCH 24, 2020

Maintaining Mental Health

During these unprecedented times, we will all be feeling some elements of being vulnerable, concerned and confused about the risk posed by the COVID-19 on our health and way of life.

Let’s all play our part in ensuring that we keep our minds healthy and divert the attention of all this uncertainty by focusing on what we can influence in our lives. Let’s follow the guidelines and most of all don’t panic!

Remember mental health is something we all have. When we enjoy good mental health, we have a sense of purpose and direction, the energy to do the things we want to do, and the ability to deal with the challenges that happen in our lives.

Full Article, here.

Provincial Updates

New COVID-19 Cases: As of March 23, 2020, the province of Saskatchewan has 14 new, confirmed cases of COVID-19, bringing the total to 66 reported cases.

- Sixty-five cases are confirmed, and one case is presumptive positive.
- Two of the cases are individuals in the 5-19-year-old category; all others are adults.
- 61 per cent of the cases are males and 39 per cent are females.
- To date, 5,269 COVID-19 tests have been performed by Roy Romanow Provincial Laboratory.

The case surveillance and testing information, including the regional locations of the confirmed and presumptive positive cases, is available at www.saskatchewan.ca/COVID19.

The government of Saskatchewan is urging you to stay home and help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Drug and Alcohol Testing: Upon receiving news Occupational Health WellPoint Regina is non-operational (Calgary and Edmonton are running) the STA has reached out to a few different Occupational Health Testing services to check their availability. SureHire: Occupational Health Testing Canada is open and servicing drug and alcohol testing for truck drivers in Regina, Prince Albert, Swift current, Kindersley, Estevan, Oxbow, Carnduff and Carlyle.

Saskatchewan Enacts Public Health Emergency Leave: On March 17, 2020, the Government of Saskatchewan passed amendments to The Saskatchewan Employment Act. The primary focus of the amendments is a new leave called “public health emergency leave” for provincially-regulated employees. This will provide job security to employees who have been directed to self-isolate due to COVID-19. There are different circumstances or requirements the employee has to meet to obtain the
Those requirements are found here. The amendments described in the Saskatchewan Employment Act are now lawful in Saskatchewan.

CTA Updates

CVSA Guide: CVSA is offering an on-line seminar on The Trucking Industry’s Guide to Infectious Substances and COVID-19 on March 25th. On this webinar, CVSA will offer personal protection and decontamination guidelines, a primary concern for everyone on the frontline. They will also cover inspection guidelines and regulations applicable to shipping patient samples and hospital waste associated with the virus. The on-line registration link is available from the CVSA web site.


The letter indicates that many jurisdictions have already issued emergency declarations waiving various requirements for IFTA credentialing. It goes on to state that IFTA, Inc. is strongly encouraging every jurisdiction to issue their own emergency declaration to waive the requirements for enforcement of IFTA credentialing until June 30, 2020. The June 30th date will provide a consistent date that has been recommended by other compliance organizations.

Carriers are encouraged to review the information on the IFTA website at the following link for further detail – https://www.iftach.org/

Recent Lockdowns in the U.S. due to COVID-19: CTA has been getting an increasing amount of questions regarding lockdowns/state of emergencies which are occurring in the U.S. CTA remains in communication with our contacts south of the border regarding any issues that may arise regarding the movement of trucks under these new measures, or other issues that may impact the ability of members to service their customers due to curfews, or plant closures.

You can find a list of the U.S. States with recent lockdowns/stay-at-home orders here, as well as links to their related definitions/orders, of what is/isn’t included as essential services during the COVID-19 outbreak. Members are encouraged to conduct their own due diligence when complying with these orders to ensure compliance with these regulations.

Renewal of Fast Cards: CBSA has announced that all FAST interviews scheduled between March 19 and May 1, 2020, are postponed, and that carriers/drivers can log into your Trusted Traveller Program (TTP) System online account to reschedule your appointment. Interviews scheduled after May 1, 2020, may also be postponed, and the situation will be continually assessed. CBSA has also clarified that FAST members who have submitted an application for membership renewal prior to the expiry date on their card will maintain their membership and remain in active status for 18 months beyond the expiry date and will be allowed to access FAST designated lanes. A link to the updated notice on CBSA’s website is here: https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/prog/fast-expres/menu-eng.html
Ontario

Ontario Releases List of Essential Workplaces: Regarding March 23, 2020 Ontario announcement that all non-essential business would close, they have released a list of essential business. Trucking and its suppliers have been deemed as “essential,”

- Supply chains
  - Businesses that supply other essential businesses or essential services with the support, supplies, systems or services, including processing, packaging, distribution, delivery and maintenance necessary to operate;

- Transportation
  - Taxis and other private transportation providers providing transportation services necessary for activities of daily living;
  - Businesses and facilities that provide transportation services to businesses and individuals including by air, water, road, and rail including providing logistical support, distribution services, warehousing and storage, including truck stops and tow operators;
  - Businesses that provide materials and services for the operation, maintenance and safety of transportation systems (road, transit, rail, air and marine) including delivery of maintenance services such as clearing snow, response to collisions, and completing needed repairs to the transportation systems.

- Other
  - Motor vehicle, auto-supply, auto and motor-vehicle-repair, including bicycle repair, aircraft repair, heavy equipment repair, watercraft/marine craft repairs, car and truck dealerships and related facilities;

For a complete list go to: https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/3/list-of-essential-workplaces.html

Quebec

Quebec has also deemed trucking and its suppliers as essential in response to their recent announcement that all non-essential business would close. A more detailed list will be provided later today.

COVID-19 Awareness

Continuing to stay informed on COVID-19 is important in our effort to mitigate the virus. Please find two articles to heighten your awareness and stay-up-to date on the evolving Coronavirus.

Community-based measures to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 in Canada

Risk-informed decision-making for mass gatherings during COVID-19 global outbreak