STA COVID-19 Update 13

The Saskatchewan Community continues to step up for truck drivers. Holiday Inn Saskatoon Downtown wants to pass along their appreciation to the truck drivers who are making it possible by keeping up with supplies for groceries and other necessary items for us to "Stay at Home".

The Holiday Inn Saskatoon Downtown has loaded a special rate of $109.00 for all trucking companies who need accommodations here in Saskatoon. This offer will be valid until June 30th, 2020.

Training

- PDIC Instructor Course
  - April 7th, 2020 Virtual
- LCV Instructor Course
  - April 8th, 2020 Virtual
- PDIC Course
  - April 15th, 2020 Virtual
- LCV Course
  - April 16th, 2020 Virtual
- Hours of Service with Logbook
  - April 21st, 2020 Virtual
- Cargo Securement
  - April 22nd, 2020 Virtual
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods
  - April 23rd, 2020 Virtual

News from the STA Office

STA Business Impact Survey
The STA is looking for your feedback. Amidst COVID-19, there have been a variety of impacts on business in Saskatchewan. We want to hear from your business and fleet about how your business is being impacted by COVID-19. Please take five minutes to complete the survey.

Complete Survey

Facility Access

The Saskatchewan community has stepped up for truck drivers, however there continues to be reports from truck drivers about being denied access to facilities such as washrooms. Please let us know if your drivers are experiencing these same issues. Feel free to email us.

Canadian Transportation Consultants Inc. (CTCI)

CTCI: If you need help with your IRP Plating, our CTCI department can do that for you. You can reach Rhonda @ infoctci@sasktel.net or call her at either the STA number 306 569-9696 or 306 545-8400-CTCI Phone.

Saskatchewan Trucking Association Virtual Classes Now Happening!

The Saskatchewan Trucking Association is now offering virtual training! All the great things about our in-class training now virtual. To register for the course please fill out a registration form. The STA website training calendar is now up to date and you can view upcoming classes. Click here to access.

To register for an upcoming instructor course click here
To register for all other classes click here

Email registration forms to alie@sasktrucking.com

Note: There was an error in the March 25th communication in regards to training. RIDE Course will be held on May 29th, 2020 not May 19th-29th, 2020.

News from Saskatchewan

Workers Compensation

Saskatchewan: Workplace compensation in Saskatchewan is only available for work-related injury or illness and is not provided for workers who choose to withdraw from work for preventative reasons. Any claims the WCB receives for COVID-19 will be adjudicated on a case-by-case basis. View here.

Alberta: The Alberta government has stated a number of WCB premium deferrals. Click here for a WCB
fact sheet outlining premium relief for employers.

**B.C.:** WorkSafeBC is postponing the payment deadline for Q1 2020, in light of the uncertainty and challenges many employers are facing during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak. [View here.](#)

**Manitoba:** As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the state of emergency declared by the Province of Manitoba and given the economic uncertainties, businesses may be challenged with cash flow and require temporary relief from their WCB payment obligations. In response, the WCB of Manitoba will:
- Defer premium payments until the end of May.
- Late payment penalties will be waived until further notice.
- Extend the payroll reporting deadline without penalties until the end of May.
- Ensure that coverage remains active for accounts that choose to defer payments until the end of May. Clearances will remain in good standing.

### National News

#### Prime Minister Announcement

Justin Trudeau announced today a major increase to the wage subsidy for small-and-medium-sized businesses (SMEs), boosting it to 75 percent, up from the previous 10 per cent. The decision is being back dated to March 15, 2020. The federal government also announced a special emergency business account for small businesses that will see banks offer $40,000 government-guaranteed loans interest free for the first year. An additional $12.5 billion will be made available through federal programs to help with operational cash flow requirements, and HST and GST payments are being deferred until June. More details are expected over the weekend. See the news release [here.](#)

#### Additional support for Canadian Business from the Economic Impact of COVID-19

The Government of Canada is making additional investments to support Canadian businesses from the economic impacts of COVID-19. These new investments provide support to financial institutions and allow them to quickly provide credit and liquidity options for a range of businesses. Read the full article [here.](#)

#### Federal HOS Exemption

Following the federal announcement of HOS exemptions for Essential Freight Transport Exemption, the ministry of Highways and Infrastructure has made available an email where you can provide the required information to use the federal exemption. The email is, [MHITrucking@gov.sk.ca.](mailto:MHITrucking@gov.sk.ca) Companies should be providing the following information (identified on exemption)
- the commercial vehicles that are to be operated;
- the licence plate numbers of those vehicles and the province of issuance;
- the names of drivers who will operate the commercial vehicles; and,
- the drivers’ driving licence numbers and province of issuance;
For more information click [here.](#)
In the Trucking and Transportation industry, slips, trips and falls are an all too common occurrence. Check out our latest injury prevention blog post and stay safe out there.