



COVID-19

JUNE 4, 2020

CPA Annual General Meeting – June 10, 2020

Due to COVID-19, the **Canadian Propane Association is holding its AGM on June 10 at 1:15 pm EST via teleconference call**. If you have not received an invite to the AGM and are a member in good standing with the CPA and wish to attend, please contact Sherri Clair at sherriclair@propane.ca or 613-513-5800.

Federal

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

New measures for the use of face coverings in the Canadian transportation sector

To reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19, [Transport Canada and the transportation industry have implemented a layered system of measures](#), such as increased sanitization, health checks for passengers, and allowing passengers to remain in their vehicles on ferries.

However, the government says there are still points in the transportation system where workers must be in close proximity to co-workers and travellers and are therefore expanding the requirements for the use of face coverings by workers and others involved in the transportation system, to reduce the risk of COVID-19.

These measures will be implemented through a combination of mandatory orders and guidance:

Aviation

- Expand the existing face covering / non-medical mask requirements beyond passengers to include some flight crew and airport workers.
- These measures come into effect at noon EDT on June 4, 2020.

Marine

- Issue guidance recommending that all workers in the marine transportation sector have in their possession a face covering, and recommend that face coverings be worn using a risk-based approach specific to the unique circumstances of the workplace, when physical distancing cannot be maintained, and/or when local authorities require it.

Rail

- Issue guidance requiring rail operators to notify passengers that they will be asked to wear a face covering when physical distancing of two metres from others cannot be maintained, or as requested by rail operators.
- Provide or make accessible a face covering to all workers in the rail industry.
- Ensure a face covering be worn by workers on a risk-based approach specific to the unique circumstances of the workplace, when physical distancing cannot be maintained, and/or when local authorities require it.

Road

- Establish a set of practices for the use of personal protective equipment, including face coverings in road transportation (i.e., trucking, motor coach, transit), in collaboration with provinces, territories and industry.

The Ministry of Transportation says that where physical distancing of two metres from others cannot be maintained, the use of face coverings can play a key role in limiting transmission of the virus. Existing public health and good hygiene practices including physical distancing and frequent hand washing are still the most effective methods to limit the spread of the virus.

FINANCIAL AID

Reminder: Contribute to the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy consultation

The Government of Canada is reviewing the CEWS program, and input from businesses is required to inform potential changes to the program to best meet the needs of businesses and their staff. You can participate via a short [online survey](#). The deadline to participate is June 5, 2020.

British Columbia

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

BC government restarts significant portion of BC's Phase 2 activities

June 1 marked the restart of a significant portion of BC's Phase 2 activities. K-12 schools have reopened to in-class learning, transit systems are fully operational, and some provincial parks are now open to overnight camping.

Where safe physical distancing may be challenging, such as on a bus, the BC government recommends wearing non-medical masks. All employers must demonstrate that they can operate safely and are required under the [Workers Compensation Act](#) to ensure the safety of their employees at work. Employers should review the [updated Health and Safety Guidelines](#), best practices and other resources from [WorkSafeBC](#).

Saskatchewan

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Phase 3 of Re-Open Saskatchewan starting June 8, 2020

The [Sask. government](#) has announced the target date for Phase 3 of Re-Open Saskatchewan is [June 8, 2020](#).

Restaurants and licensed establishments, gyms and fitness facilities, places of worship and child care facilities are among the groups able to re-open in Phase 3. Personal service businesses that did not open in Phase 2 are also allowed to begin providing services. Other than in an allowable business, the size of public and private gatherings will increase to a maximum of 15 people indoors and 30 people outdoors. A list of these businesses is available in the [Re-Open Saskatchewan](#) plan.

The government is recommending wearing a [mask/facial covering](#) when it is not possible to consistently maintain a 2-metre physical distance from others, particularly in crowded public settings, such as stores, shopping areas and public transportation.

Manitoba

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Manitoba government to increase investment in Canada-Manitoba Job Grant program

The [Manitoba government](#) is increasing its investment in the [Canada-Manitoba Job Grant](#) program to \$5.7 million this year to better assist businesses with staff training costs as they recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The program allows employers to apply for up to \$10,000 for each of their employees, to a maximum grant of \$100,000. Eligible costs include:

- tuition fees;
- textbooks, software and other required materials;

- exam fees; and
- travel costs for the training of individuals in northern and remote communities.

[Applications](#) are now available for Canada-Manitoba Job Grants for 2020-21. The application deadline is July 3.

Ontario

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Ontario extends Declaration of Emergency until June 30

Ontario is extending the provincial Declaration of Emergency to June 30. The extension will support the continued enforcement of emergency orders that give hospitals and long-term care homes the necessary flexibility to respond to COVID-19 and protect vulnerable populations and the public as the province reopens. A full list of emergency orders can be found on the [e-Laws website](#) under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* and at [Ontario.ca/alert](#).

FINANCIAL AID

Ontario improving broadband and cell Service for rural communities

The [Ontario government has announced that it is investing \\$150 million in reliable broadband and cellular service](#). The province says that investing in reliable broadband and cellular service can help create greater opportunity for families, farmers and small business owners in rural and remote areas of the province. The new Improving Connectivity in Ontario, or ICON, program, when leveraged, has the potential to result in an investment of up to \$500 million in total partner funding to improve connectivity in underserved and unserved areas.

Other

WEBINAR: How to adapt your business to thrive in the new normal

Join **BDC advisory services** experts on June 15 at 12:00 p.m. ET as they present a step-by-step approach to managing risks, creating contingency plans and equipping your business with a strategic vision that takes into account the changed landscape. The **Canadian Chamber of Commerce** will present the results of the Canadian Survey on Business Conditions and will discuss how businesses of all sizes are adapting and innovating during this crisis. [Click here](#) to register.

Keep informed with up-to-date information by visiting our [COVID-19 website](#).