

# **COVID-19: SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES**

**Public health measures**

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## CONSIDERATIONS

Some businesses are adapting to remain open in the current environment. Others are starting to plan for re-opening once it is safe to do so. All workplaces will need to adapt to a “new normal” by putting public health measures in place. These could include enforcing physical distancing, using masks or face coverings, cleaning frequently used surfaces, and other measures.

## GUIDANCE AND ADVICE

### Risk mitigation tool for workplaces/businesses operating during the COVID-19 pandemic

Viruses that cause respiratory illnesses such as COVID-19 can be spread in the workplace. Workplaces/businesses need to consider risks to employees, customers and clients during the COVID-19 pandemic, and implement appropriate measures to mitigate potential risks. The Public Health Agency of Canada has published guidelines to help businesses and workplaces make informed decisions on actions they can take.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/guidance-documents/risk-informed-decision-making-workplaces-businesses-covid-19-pandemic.html>

### Guidance for workplaces and businesses operating during COVID-19

Avoid risks to employees, customers and clients during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is not applicable to workplaces where health care is provided. First responders and health care workers should follow the occupational health and safety and infection prevention and control practices within their workplace.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/measures-reduce-community/guidance-workplaces-covid-19.html>

### Advice for essential retailers during COVID-19 epidemic

Essential retailers are providing critical services in their communities by ensuring safe and reliable access to food, supplies and other provisions. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important for these retailers to implement appropriate public health measures and to adjust their operations to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19 among their workers and customers.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/guidance-documents/advice-essential-retailers.html>

### Prevention and risks – Hygiene, cleaning, wearing non-medical masks and cloth face coverings

The prevention and risks page provides key information and advice on personal hygiene practices, the cleaning of surfaces and the use of non-medical masks or face coverings.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks.html#hygiene>

## Travel

If employees are required to travel, they should review travel health notices and take appropriate precautions.

<https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/health-safety/travel-health-notice/221>

## AWARENESS RESOURCES

### Preventing COVID-19 in the workplace: Employers, employees, and essential service workers

Fact sheet: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/preventing-covid-19-workplace-employers-employees-essential-service-workers.html>

### Cleaning and disinfecting public spaces (COVID-19)

Fact sheet: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/cleaning-disinfecting-public-spaces.html>

## Handwashing

Infographic: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/reduce-spread-covid-19-wash-your-hands.html>

Video: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/video/reduce-spread-covid-19-wash-hands.html>

Video: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/video/covid-19-hand-washing.html>

## Physical distancing

Fact sheet: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/social-distancing.html>

Infographic: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/physical-distancing.html>

Video: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/video/covid-19-physical-distancing.html>

## Non-medical masks and cloth face coverings

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/instructions-sew-no-sew-cloth-face-covering.html>

## Help reduce the spread of COVID-19

Infographic: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/help-reduce-spread-covid-19.html>

## About coronavirus disease / Know the facts (COVID-19)

Fact sheet: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/know-facts-about-coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

Infographic: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/about-coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

## COVID-19 Symptom Self-Assessment Tool

The COVID-19 symptom self-assessment tool can help determine whether you or an employee need to be tested. <https://ca.thrive.health/covid19/en>

## Provincial and territorial public health authorities

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/symptoms/provincial-territorial-resources-covid-19.html>

## MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

### Taking care of your mental health during COVID-19

Fact sheet: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/taking-care-mental-health.html>

## Wellness Together Canada: Mental Health and Substance Use Support Portal

COVID-19 has placed substantial strain on individuals and families across the country. Isolation, financial and employment uncertainty, and disruptions to daily life are challenging Canadians in a number of ways. Many people are concerned about their physical and mental well-being.

*Wellness Together Canada* provides free online resources, tools and apps, as well as connections to trained volunteers and qualified mental health professionals when needed. Resources include modules for addressing low mood, worry, substance use, social isolation and relationship issues.

[www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/mental-health.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/mental-health.html)

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For information on support for workers, considerations for businesses navigating COVID-19 disruptions, and Canada's Economic Response Plan, please visit the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): For businesses and employees page: [www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/businesses-employees.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/businesses-employees.html)

To receive updates from the Government of Canada about COVID-19, you can subscribe to the mailing list: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/subscription-form.html>

For more information and the latest updates on COVID-19 in Canada, please visit: [Canada.ca/coronavirus](http://Canada.ca/coronavirus)

