



Public Health Order – COVID-19 Directed at Mineral and Petroleum Industry

WHEREAS the Minister, upon recommendation from the Chief Public Health Officer, declared a Public Health Emergency in the Northwest Territories effective March 18, 2020 and renewed commencing on April 1, 2020.

AND WHEREAS the Chief Public Health Officer may take certain actions including issuing directions or orders for the purpose of protecting the public health under the authority of the *Public Health Act*, S.N.W.T. 2007, c.17 (hereinafter the “Act”).

AND WHEREAS the Chief Public Health Officer issued an order dated March 21, 2020 entitled “COVID-19 Travel Restrictions and Self-Isolation Protocol” (“the March 21, 2020 order”).

AND WHEREAS subsection 1(i) of the March 21, 2020 order provided exceptions for transient workers in the mineral and petroleum resources industry;

AND WHEREAS for the purposes of protecting the public health and decreasing or eliminating the risk to the public health presented by a reportable disease, the Chief Public Health Officer seeks to provide specific direction to participants in the mineral and petroleum resources industry;

The Chief Public Health Officer hereby orders the following:

1. Pursuant to section 25 of the Act, any employer, manager or other authorized person having charge of a work camp or persons at a work camp where work is being done in relation to the mineral and petroleum resources industry (hereinafter “the Employer”) shall:
 - a. ensure each worker employed or contracted to work at a work camp in the mineral or petroleum resources industry (hereinafter “worker”) completes fourteen days of social distancing in accordance with the social distancing protocols established by the Chief Public Health Officer (attached as Schedule A) prior to being permitted to travel to the workplace.
 - b. complete a workplace risk assessment using the approved form (attached as Schedule B), prior to the worker being permitted to travel to the workplace.



- c. establish workplace social distancing protocols consistent with the workplace risk assessment completed pursuant to 1(b) herein and ensure compliance with the protocols by workers and visitors to the workplace.
- d. ensure that no more than the minimum number of workers necessary to maintain operations is present at the workplace at any given time.
- e. provide for and ensure every worker complete a health screening including a temperature check and [COVID-19 symptom](#) inquiry, prior to allowing the worker to travel to the workplace. If a worker is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 they shall not be allowed to travel to the workplace.
- f. provide for and ensure that every worker complete an additional health screening including a [COVID-19 symptom](#) inquiry prior to the start of each shift.
- g. ensure all workers displaying [symptoms of COVID-19](#) immediately self-isolate in a designated part of the workplace. Further, Employers must notify the Office of the Chief Public Health Officer immediately if a worker is displaying symptoms of COVID-19, and comply with any further directions provided by the Chief Public Health Officer.
- h. establish disinfection procedures satisfactory to the Chief Public Health Officer specific to the following areas of the worksite, if applicable:
 - i. Recreational facilities, including recreational centres, gyms, indoor courts, and weight rooms;
 - ii. Communal social gatherings areas and lounges;
 - iii. Entertainment areas, including audio-visual screening areas;
 - iv. Cafeterias and mess halls;
 - v. Canteens and commissaries;
 - vi. Bathrooms;
 - vii. Dry change areas;



viii. Stairways.

- i. further to paragraph 1(h)(iv) herein, cease operation of self-serve buffet style cafeterias and mess halls.
- j. display signs in the workplace at points of entry to those parts of the premises listed in paragraph 1(h) herein, to give notice of restricted use and disinfection procedures to which workers shall comply.

2. Pursuant to section 25 of the Act, workers shall:

- a. complete fourteen days of social distancing in accordance with the social distancing protocols established by the Chief Public Health Officer (attached as Schedule A) prior to traveling to the workplace.
- b. comply with a workplace risk assessment (attached as Schedule B) prior to traveling to the workplace.
- c. complete, prior to traveling to the workplace, a health screening including a temperature check and [COVID-19 symptom](#) inquiry. If a worker is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 they shall not travel to the workplace.
- d. complete, prior to the start of each shift, a health screening including a [COVID-19 symptom](#) inquiry.
- e. comply with workplace social distancing protocols as established by the Employer.
- f. if displaying [symptoms of COVID-19](#), immediately self-isolate in a designated part of the workplace and comply with any further directions provided by the Chief Public Health Officer.
- g. comply with all disinfection procedures put in place by the Employer.



3. Except as otherwise exempted by the Chief Public Health Officer under exceptional circumstances, all Employers and workers shall comply with this order.

This order is effective April 10, 2020 at 12:00pm and remains in effect for the duration of the Public Health Emergency, unless otherwise rescinded.

<original signed by>

Dr. Kami Kandola
Chief Public Health Officer



SOCIAL DISTANCING PROTOCOLS FOR

Remote Work Camps

The Chief Public Health Officer of the Northwest Territories recommends social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Social distancing means limiting the amount of people you come into contact with, which lowers the risk of passing or catching the virus. While workers such as mine employees, oil & gas workers and construction workers may be permitted to continue to work from their job site in some situations, there are additional guidelines for those who are permitted to work and move between communities during this pandemic.

The following steps must be taken by all individuals entering the NWT to work sites :

- Workers in closed camps need to practice social distancing **two (2) weeks prior** to entry into NWT camps.
- Workers are also expected to monitor themselves for symptoms. Attached is a self monitoring form workers must use for the whole 2 weeks prior to entry.
- Workers must provide the completed daily self monitoring form to their Occupational Health Supervisor upon entry to the camp and may be required to produce the completed form at port of entry into the NWT.

Health facilities in the NWT are extremely limited. We all must take extra precautions to keep our communities safe from a covid-19 outbreak.

What does social distancing mean?

This means making changes in your everyday routines in order to minimize close contact with others, including:

- Avoiding crowded places and non-essential gatherings
- Avoiding common greetings, such as handshakes
- Keeping a distance of at least 2 meters from others, as much as possible

Here's how you can practice social distancing:

- Greet with a wave instead of a handshake, a kiss or a hug
- Stay home as much as possible, including for meals and entertainment
- Shop or take public transportation during off-peak hours
- Use technology to keep in touch with friends and family

If possible,

- Use food delivery services or online shopping
- Exercise at home or outside away from others

Remember to:

- Wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds and avoid touching your face
- Cough or sneeze into the bend of your arm or a tissue
- Avoid touching surfaces people touch often

If you're concerned you may have COVID-19:

- Separate yourself from others as soon as you have symptoms
- If you are outside the home when a symptom develops, go home immediately and avoid taking public transit
- Stay home and follow the advice of your Public Health Authority, who may recommend isolation
- Call ahead to a health care provider if you are ill and seeking medical attention
- Call your supervisor and do not go to work if you are sick

Clean and Disinfect Regularly

Disinfect high-touch areas such as toilets, bedside tables, keyboards, keypads, and door handles twice a day, with an agent effective against coronavirus. Coronavirus is easy to kill with appropriate disinfectants.

Health Canada has produced a list of registered disinfectants that are qualified for use against COVID-19: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/list.html>

Some appropriate disinfectants include:

- Diluted bleach solution
- Accelerated hydrogen peroxide (0.5%)
- Quaternary ammonium compounds (QUATs)

Always check the manufacturer's information to assure the product is effective against coronaviruses. Follow the product instructions for the dilution and contact time. Unless otherwise stated on the product, use a detergent to clean the surface of all visible debris prior to the application of the disinfectant.

Surfaces that have become soiled with respiratory secretions or bodily fluids should be cleaned twice: once to remove the secretions, and second with an effective disinfectant to disinfect the area. Use disposable gloves and protective clothing (e.g. plastic aprons, if available) when cleaning or handling surfaces, clothing or linen that has been soiled with bodily fluids.

DO:

- ✓ Implement social distancing at least 14 days before your proposed shift. This means maintaining at least two meters between you and other people at all times
- ✓ Wash hands frequently
- ✓ Stay home and do not attend work when sick
- ✓ Travel to airports in a private vehicle whenever possible rather than public transportation
- ✓ Wear a mask or facial barrier when unable to stay two metres from others (i.e. flights or shared transport)
- ✓ Follow a self-monitoring plan for 14 days with documentation (see attached) Check for a fever using a thermometer
- ✓ If you or anybody in your home exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, difficulty breathing), contact a health care provider to get tested and then notify your employer immediately for further direction

DO NOT:

- ✗ Socialize too closely (within 2 metres) with other people, whether at work, in transit, or between shifts
- ✗ Spend unnecessary time at public access points, including delivery locations or cafeterias
- ✗ Use crowded rest stops or stores
- ✗ Visit people outside of your worksite and home
- ✗ Avoid all non-essential travel outside your jurisdiction

REMEMBER:

- ✓ When you're travelling between communities, make sure to monitor yourself for COVID-19 symptoms like fever, cough, or difficulty breathing (use attached sheet)
- ✓ Wash your hands frequently and use hand sanitizer when soap and water is not available
- ✓ Disinfect the interior of your vehicle and/or accommodations using sanitizing wipes or a bleach solution
- ✓ If you develop symptoms on worksite, self-isolate immediately and call the responsible physician assistant or medic. If off-site, call the local health centre wherever you are and ask for further advice
- ✓ Follow all safety and hygiene protocols issued by your employer, union, and/or governing body

Thank you for keeping the NWT safe and for your service.

Here is a sheet to help you keep track of your daily symptoms while self-monitoring.

COVID-19 Daily Self-Monitoring Form for Camp Workers

Let your health care provider and supervisor know if you develop symptoms.

Name: _____

Start Date for Monitoring: _____

Date to Start at Camp : _____

Port of Entry Screening (if applicable)

Date of Entry: _____

Temperature (°C): _____

Symptoms Present: ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes: _____

Individuals should self-monitor for symptoms 14 days prior to entry into an NWT closed camp.

Date each day, check your temperature with a thermometer and then check any of the symptoms you may have developed.

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Date														
No Symptoms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Symptoms:	Let a health care provider and your supervisor know if you develop symptoms.													
Temperature (specify: °C)														
Chills/Feverish														
Difficulty breathing	Call 9-1-1													
Cough														
Runny Nose														
Nausea/Vomiting/ Diarrhea														
Sore throat														
Other, specify														

If symptoms continue past this point call your healthcare provider

Employee Signature: _____

Occupational Health Supervisor Name: _____ Signature: _____

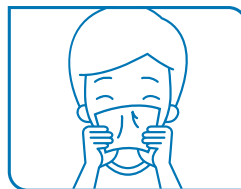
Healthy Respiratory Practices Everyone Can Use to Protect Yourself & Your Community



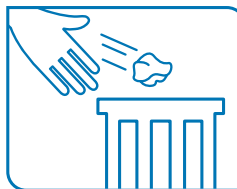
Stay home if you are sick



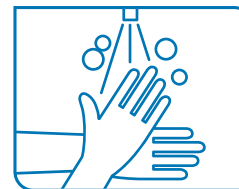
If you are sick, avoid close contact with others



Turn and cover your mouth and nose



Throw used tissues in the garbage



Wash your hands



Clean/Disinfect

COVID-19 and the Workplace: General Precautions and a Risk Assessment

Should a Worker be at the work site?

Use the *Risk Assessment and Worksite Precautions* to determine the level of risk of exposure to COVID-19. This is a tool for you to identify what risks you need to eliminate or minimize and steps you can take to protect Workers.

- Consult with Workers or the Joint OHS Committee to conduct the risk assessment.
- The Assessment becomes part of your health and safety plan that you share with Workers.
- Reassess and update as circumstances change or new hazards are identified.

You do not need to submit the completed assessments to WSCC.

- ☐ Keep completed risk assessments for your records,
- ☐ Review protective measures regularly with staff to make sure everyone knows and understands what the employer will do to ensure safety and the steps they must take to protect themselves from exposure to COVID-19.

To have an OHS Inspector assist you with your risk assessment, please email Covid-19@wscc.nt.ca.

Name	Click here to enter text.	Work Site	Click here to enter text.	Date	Click here to enter a date.
1. Does the Worker have a cough, shortness of breath, or a temperature?					
<input type="checkbox"/> No – proceed to Q. 2		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Worker is to be at home in self-isolation until tested or symptom-free. If the Worker is concerned about COVID-19, please refer them to the NTHSSA Operational Response for COVID-19 Preparedness at https://www.nthssa.ca/en/newsroom/public-notice-nthssa-%E2%80%93-93-operational-response-covid-19-preparedness . Please note that the NTHSSA health care providers will not be providing sick notes to employers during this time.			
2. Has the Worker returned to the NWT within the last 14 days?					
<input type="checkbox"/> No – proceed to Q. 3		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Follow the directions for travelers and self-isolation at https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/information-travellers			
3. Does the Worker perform an essential service?					
<input type="checkbox"/> No – Proceed to Q. 4		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – A risk assessment (see p. 2) is mandatory for all essential Workers, and all general precautions should be followed (see p. 4).			
4. Can the Worker work remotely?					
<input type="checkbox"/> No – Proceed to Q. 5		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – The employer will develop a work-at-home agreement for the Worker. For additional information about tele-working, visit www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/hsprograms/telework.html .			
5. Do the shift schedules or work environment ensure social distancing? For example, can you divide staff between shifts, eliminate visits to customers/clients, etc.					
<input type="checkbox"/> No – Proceed to Q. 6		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Develop a physical distancing operational plan that works for your business.			
6. Does the Worker work or volunteer at another work place that would be considered high risk?					
<input type="checkbox"/> No – Perform a risk assessment (see p. 2) and follow all general safety precautions to protect Workers (see p. 4).			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Perform a risk assessment (see p. 2) to determine any additional risks to staff and clients at the work site. Follow all general safety precautions to protect Workers (see p. 4).		

COVID-19 and the Workplace: General Precautions and a Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment

Reference: <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3990.pdf>


☐ Complete the following risk assessment to identify:

- How Workers might be exposed to COVID-19, including sources such as the general public, customers, and coworkers;
- Workers' individual risk factors (e.g., older age, chronic medical conditions, pregnancy); and
- Controls necessary to mitigate or lower those risks.

Occupational Risk Levels for COVID-19

Exposure Risk Level	Sample occupations
<input type="checkbox"/> Very High	Jobs such as healthcare workers who have significant exposure to the virus and laboratory personnel who work with COVID-19 specimen.
<input type="checkbox"/> High	Jobs such as healthcare delivery and clinical support workers who must enter patients' rooms, but who may not have direct exposure to infected patients; and medical transport workers who transport patients.
<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	Roles and responsibilities that require frequent or close contact with (i.e., within 2 metres of) people who may be infected. Workers in this risk group may have frequent contact with travelers who may return from locations outside of the territory, such as cab drivers, group home workers, and daycare workers.
<input type="checkbox"/> Lower Risk (Caution)	Jobs that do not require frequent close contact with (i.e., within 2 metres of) the general public. Workers in this category have minimal occupational contact with the public and other coworkers.

Determine hazard control measures. Can you:

Best  Least	<input type="checkbox"/> Eliminate the hazard: This removes the task, equipment, chemical, or act that is causing the hazard. For example, have Workers work remotely.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute: Change the work process, person, substance, tool or equipment for a less hazardous one.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineer: Design the work site, equipment, or process to minimize, eliminate, or contain the hazard. For example can a barrier be installed to protect Workers?
	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative: Limit the Worker's exposure to the hazard through safe work procedures. For example make sure Workers are trained on hand washing, know the symptoms of COVID-19, and limit exposure to the public, clients, or customers.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal Protective Equipment: Used as a last resort to protect a Worker from exposure to a hazard. For example wear gloves.

Use the table on p. 3 to note the hazards and document the controls you will implement.

COVID-19 and the Workplace: General Precautions and a Risk Assessment

Table: Implement the hazard controls

Hazard that leads to exposure	Control Method
1. Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
2. Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
3. Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
4. Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
5. Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
6. Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
7. Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
8. Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
9. Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
10. Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
For each control, you should be able to answer yes to these questions: <input type="checkbox"/> Have you discussed the hazards and controls with the Workers? <input type="checkbox"/> Have provided training for these control measures? <input type="checkbox"/> Have you saved a copy of this risk assessment?	

Step 5: Measure the effectiveness:

- ☐ Create a plan to monitor that the controls are working. For example: check during inspections, discuss at a safety meeting, develop a pre-shift checklist.
- ☐ If the control does not work, review and revise the control.
- ☐ Make sure you discuss all options with Workers.

**Regularly review this hazard assessment with Workers,
and revise when the work environment changes.**

You do not need to submit this assessment to WSCC.

To have an OHS Inspector assist you with your risk assessment, please email Covid-19@wscc.nt.ca.

**For all other concerns related to COVID-19, visit
<https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/coronavirus-disease-covid-19>.**

COVID-19 and the Workplace: General Precautions and a Risk Assessment

General Safety Precautions

Advise Workers that all resident returning from outside the NWT, or who are unwell, must self-isolate per the Chief Public Health Officer's direction: <https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/newsroom/chief-public-health-officer-orders-travel-restrictions-and-self-isolation-those-entering>.

To reduce the risk of transmission, ensure the following safety precautions are implemented:

- ☐ Staff must maintain a distance of 2 meters between themselves and customers at all times
- ☐ Staff should wash their hands regularly with soap and water or use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- ☐ Hand sanitizing stations should be installed in areas frequently touched by staff and customers.
- ☐ Staff should be provided with disposable gloves for handling money and garbage.
- ☐ Frequently touched areas should be disinfected more often.
- ☐ Staff should be educated about healthy respiratory practices (see <https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/sites/hss/files/resources/healthy-respiratory-practices.pdf>).

Discuss the following precautions with Workers, to ensure everyone understands the necessary protective measures:

- Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water
- Maintain a distance of 2 metres (6 feet) between yourself and others
- Do not touch your face
- Use disposable gloves when handling items others have touched
- Regularly clean and disinfect communal equipment such as telephones, keyboards, cash registers
- Encourage customers to pay electronically whenever possible
- Place signage or other visible indicators to promote social distancing in lines or waiting for service
- Limit the number of customers in the business at any given time
- If you are an essential service, evaluate your shift options. Can you reduce the number of staff of each shift, can staff work remotely or can you add more shifts?
- Wear protective gloves when handling garbage and clean your hands with soap and water when done
- Regularly disinfect high touch items such as toilets, sink taps, handles, door knobs, light switches, cellphones, frequently throughout the day
- Follow good respiratory hygiene practices: cover your mouth and nose with your elbow or a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and throw the tissue away when done

References:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>
<https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/sites/hss/files/resources/self-isolation-information-sheet.pdf>

**For all other concerns related to COVID-19, visit
<https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/coronavirus-disease-covid-19>.**