

COVID-19 Rotation by Air - Travel Protocols

Application

The following COVID-19 Airline Travel Protocol is applicable to airline flights transporting workers to Lower Churchill Project (LCP) Worksites. To be used in conjunction with Travel Protocols and guidelines with respect to restrictions by the Project, Public Health, Provincial and Federal Governments.

Purpose

The overall purpose of this plan is to support and implement practices to protect those on aircraft and prevent spread of COVID-19 as applicable to the LCP worksites.

Background

On December 31, 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) was alerted to several cases of pneumonia in Wuhan, China which did not match any other known virus. The cause has been confirmed as a new coronavirus (COVID-19). To date, COVID-19 has spread outside China and has impacted other Countries. The Public Health Agency of Canada currently describes the risk to Canadians as HIGH, so it is prudent for LCP to be proactive in the Management of; exposure to, spread and control of COVID-19 incidents in the workplace.

Guidance

In concert with latest information from World Health Organization, Provincial and Federal Health Departments, LCP Health and Safety personnel are working directly with a 3rd party infectious disease specialist to ensure that the COVID-19 Airline Travel Protocol is updated in accordance with latest information relative to COVID-19 Incident Management. Referencing current guidance, the following COVID-19 Rotation by Air - Travel Protocol has been prepared for those required to airline travel for the purpose of attending LCP worksites.

Aircraft Protocols

As part of the Lower Churchill projects continued effort to combat the COVID -19 virus spread, specific measures have been implemented for personal that will be traveling via charter aircraft to and from Happy Valley Goose Bay (HVGB), for their scheduled two week shift. (A shift and B shift).

The following are measures implemented prior to boarding the charter aircraft and while seated during the flight.

1. Prior to personnel boarding charter aircraft for authorized travel for the purpose of attending any LCP site, confirmation of successful completions of all required Pre-Screening documentation (Screening Questionnaire / Decision Tree) will be required to be submitted by their Employer 48 hours in advance.
2. All personnel will be subject to Pre-Screening Protocols when returning from their rotation.
3. Personnel will be asked to self-identify if they are experiencing or been around anyone experiencing Influenza Like Illness (ILI) symptoms, this will also result in a denied access to the aircraft.
4. Prior to personnel being permitted to board the charter aircraft, medical personnel will perform mandatory Digital Infrared Thermometer Body Temperature Surveillance. This will be mandatory for anyone boarding the aircraft. Anyone with an elevated temperature (38 degrees and above) will not be permitted to board the aircraft. A surgical mask will be applied immediately, the person isolated and directed to call the 811 Healthline for further instructions.
5. The aircraft will be completely sanitized and wiped down prior to personal boarding.
6. Social distancing will be factored in to seating arrangements based on the layout of the aircraft in respect to the amount of passengers allowed to board the flight. Passengers are reminded of the requirement to take the assigned seats to ensure this protocol is being followed.
7. Regular handwashing is imperative. Wash one's hands with soap and water before boarding the aircraft.

Additionally, see the following tips passengers can utilize to protect themselves and those around them.

1. Wear gloves, such as winter gloves, while boarding and until settled into one's seat, this to reduce the chance of being exposed in the airport, walking down the aisle or touching luggage.
2. Carry a small supply of disinfecting wipes to self-clean high touch surfaces such as personal space in waiting areas, armrests, seat belts, table trays etc.
3. Be cautious when speaking to people in front or behind you, try and avoid unnecessary conversations, maintain social distancing when lining up for security etc.

4. Do not put one's hands or any belongings inside the seat pocket of the seat in front of you.
5. Do not handle magazines or other paper products on the aircraft.
6. Bring your own food, napkins, and water. Do not drink anything but bottled water on the aircraft.
7. If you do take food / drink items from the flight attendant, wipe down the product packaging, wash hands / hand sanitize, and then eat or drink.
8. Air Exchange on aircraft is actually quite high, and the risk of picking up an infection on a aircraft is actually lower than being in other public spaces.

If you are symptomatic or been around someone symptomatic or suspected to have Covid-19, do not go to the airport and contact your Local Health Authority at 811 before going to your Doctor or Hospital. Follow instructions given. As well notify your Company / Supervisor.

Updates and Amendments

Because the status of COVID-19 is changing rapidly, LCP Health and Safety representatives are monitoring COVID-19 updates from Provincial and Federal Public Health Agencies, WHO Situation Report and the Centre for Disease Control on an hourly/daily basis. As noted, LCP has retained the services of a 3rd party infectious disease specialist who is providing regular updated information and guidance on management any potential scenarios surrounding the COVID-19 situation.

As information impacts the accuracy of this plan, the plan will be updated and communicated accordingly.