

COVID – 19 UPDATE 2

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With the rapid rise of the COVID – 19 Pandemic and so many new changes to Provincial and Federal Government programs that are available, there are many questions and concerns by the membership. The Local Union leadership (Executive, Support Staff and Local Representatives) along with Unifor National Reps and Unifor National Leadership are working to identify concerns and issues around this situation.

Reach out to the people you care about. Chances are you or someone you know is struggling with increased anxiety, elevated symptoms of depression or is struggling with an addiction. It is hard to know how to be supportive at the best of times, and isolation and quarantine create an added level of difficulty in supporting people you care about.

Reaching out to those experiencing mental illness during this time is as important as ever.

Unifor Mental Health Resources:

https://www.unifor.org/covid19mentalhealth?fbclid=lwAR1px3Sq2YQ0QHoGjqCFQ3vEr8ljVJJ2dMJcv KC4TsfXDP66b8QnUewjmZo

Check in with your friends, family, and colleagues and talk about mental health. Talk about the plans you might put in place to manage loneliness and how you will cope with this sudden way-of-life shift because of COVID-19. Make a plan to check in regularly and support each other through this crisis.

You and your family's monetary, physical and mental health is important so we are advising members to educate themselves and follow the protocols and advice from experts and to access the information that we are providing to our membership listed below. Unifor's website is updated constantly as new information is provided. Unifor has many websites to direct you to for assistance.

Resources:

Unifor COVID-19 Information and Resources: https://www.unifor.org/covid19

Unifor COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):

https://www.unifor.org/sites/default/files/documents/document/covid-19 fags en.pdf

Unifor Policy Demands: https://www.unifor.org/sites/default/files/attachments/covid-19 policypaper v1 en 0.pdf

Government of Canada Outbreak Update: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html

Government of Canada Income Supports for Workers/Individuals: https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html

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Please also check the websites of your respective provinces for any additional provincial supports or resources that may be available to you.

BCCDC website for Health info about COVID-19: www.bccdc.ca

British Columbia Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) website: http://covid-19.bccdc.ca/

<u>Health Issues:</u> Dial 811 and follow your Provincial Protocols <u>Mental Health Issues:</u> Dial 211 or access your EAP benefits:

If you have any questions please contact your Local Union Representative.

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New Westminster Office 604.524.9457 1.800.841.5911

Follow phone directory to get to your Local Rep and if not available leave a message you will get a call back.

Employment Insurance questions: Barbie Zipp Cell # 1.250.881.3515 <u>zipp.barbie@gmail.com</u>

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www.unifor114.com

Other useful websites with information

Federal Government Financial Support Resources:

Government of Canada COVID-19 Financial Assistance for Canadians Outside of Canada: https://travel.gc.ca/assistance/emergency-info/financial-assistance/covid-19-financial-help

Government of Canada Economic Plan & How to Apply for Support: https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/03/canadas-covid-19-economic-response-plan-support-for-canadians-and-businesses.html

COVID - 19 Employment and Social Development Canada Information Guide: https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/notices/coronavirus.html

Canada Revenue Agency COVID-19: https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/covid-19-employee-info.html

Provincial Government Financial Support Resources:

BC Preparedness Response: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support

Income Assistance: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/income-assistance

Income Assistance Offices in the Lower Mainland: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/income-assistance/access-services#lowermainland

Health & Preparation Resources:

COVID-19: Being prepared: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/being-prepared.html

Government of Canada Symptoms & Treatments: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/symptoms.html

BC COVID-19 Symptom Self-Assessment

Tool: https://covid19.thrive.health/?fbclid=lwAR1NzQXV3eUgFa5bSimQ2wiRpXVRMZc1LPbgp5fUNIDFIK1Sc7yjhcc4aB

HealthLinkBC & 811: https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/services-and-resources/about-8-1-1

Other Useful Links:

World Health Organization Myth Busters: https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/myth-busters

World Health Organization Public Advice: https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public

Government of Canada, Community-based Measures: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/health-professionals/public-health-measures-mitigate-covid-19.html