In response to International – IMPACT Safety Call entitled, "COVID-19 Pandemic: Protecting Our Members in The Workplace" held April 3, the Safety and Health Department has received many calls requesting a copy of the information presented. We are pleased that Dr. John Howard, Director of the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services scheduled time to address our contractors and members throughout the United States and Canada. Attached for your review and use is a copy of Dr. Howard’s presentation that addresses specific issues pertaining to the COVID-19 virus and efforts of NIOSH to help mitigate the spread of this deadly virus.


In addition to Dr. Howard’s presentation, Mr. Len Welsh, former Chief of the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health addressed current issues on construction projects pertaining to policies and procedures by project owners and general contractors. Mr. Welsh also addressed regulatory requirements for employers and safe practices that should be implemented to help protect our members in the workplace. Below please find the link to view the completed presentation by Dr. Howard and Len Welsh.

Video:  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-9tobu0L5Dg&feature=youtu.be

Additionally, attached please find a document  [linked here] that outlines several US and Canadian guidelines available to help members and contractors understand and prepare for the pandemic. Links are available for several important resources, including:

- CDC website information
- Workplace guidance; OSHA, EPA, and Agency summaries
- Assessment tools
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Construction Industry Guidance
- Environmental Cleaning and Disinfectant Recommendations
- Mitigation Strategies
Cases & Latest Updates
Reporting Cases of COVID-19
Self-Quarantine Guidance
People at Risk for Serious Illness
Infants and Children
Pets
Home
Large Community Events/Mass Gatherings
Travel information

Canada Reference Websites and Documents

Government of Canada-COVID-19 Updates and Economic Response Plan
Canada Emergency Relief Benefit
Provincial/Territorial Health Updates
Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety
Provincial Workers’ Compensation Boards in Canada
Canadian Mental Health Association
Employment Insurance Program
Work-Share Program
Flexibility Regarding Filing Taxes
Canadian Chamber of Commerce
Coronavirus Disease 2019
Applications (Apps)

Finally, the Safety Department has accumulated a set of additional sample materials that are available to assist members and employers in protecting themselves and their work environments from coronavirus disease. These materials include sample safety programs, checklists, training materials, posters and valuable information should you or someone you know becomes infected with COVID-19. Due to the file size, it is only available through DropBox at:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/hae642zkh3lixdb/AADJs7z195JKDckG_r4FrA7a?dl=0

If you have any questions pertaining to workplace situations and potential health concerns, please contact me in the Safety and Health Department at (916) 752-2581; Jeff Norris, Canadian Safety Coordinator at (780) 459-4498; or Wayne Creasap, District Representative of Safety and Health at (703) 887-0455.

Sincerely,

Steve Rank
Executive Director of Safety and Health
Iron Workers International

Attachments