# General

## Summary

* + 1. Assume responsibility for the protection of public health, in the course of and as affected by the Work of the Contract, in accordance with specified requirements and applicable laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, codes and orders of jurisdictional authorities.
    2. Give required notices and follow procedures set out by jurisdictional authorities, including local Public Health Agencies, when discovery of infection on site occurs.

## Reference standards

* + 1. Province of Ontario website:
       1. Regulation 851; LGIC:
          1. Pre-Start Health and Review Requirements for Factories
       2. Construction site health and safety during COVID-19
          1. <https://www.ontario.ca/page/construction-site-health-and-safety-during-covid-19>
       3. Resources to prevent COVID-19 in the workplace
          1. <https://www.ontario.ca/page/resources-prevent-covid-19-workplace#construction>
    2. Canadian Construction Association
       1. [COVID-19 - Standardized Protocols for All Canadian Construction Sites](https://www.cca-acc.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/CCA-COVID-19-Standardized-Protocols-for-All-Canadian-Construction-Sites-04-16-20.pdf)

## Definitions

* + 1. Coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS- CoV).
    2. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is the name for the disease caused by infection with a coronavirus discovered in late 2019, SARS-CoV-2.
    3. SARS-CoV-2 is thought to spread mainly by transmission in air. Persons who have infection (whether they have symptoms or not) may spread the virus through coughing, sneezing, breathing, or speaking in close proximity to others (e.g. within 6 feet / 2 meters) who then inhale the virus or have it touch their eyes. In a less likely scenario, virus-laden droplets or mucous on a surface may infect a person who touches the surface and then touches their own mucous membranes (mouth, nose, possibly eyes). However, the evidence to date suggests this is not likely to be a significant mode of transmission in non-health care work settings.
    4. Pandemic outbreak of disease: an outbreak of a disease that occurs over a wide geographic area and affects an exceptionally high proportion of the population.
    5. Face masks, including medical / surgical masks and other face covering: Surgical masks and similar face coverings are not designed to provide a tight seal around the face (unlike an N95 respirator) and act primarily as a barrier to splashes, droplets, and spit.

## Pandemic response planning

* + 1. Prior to commencement of construction, the Contractor shall prepare a suitable pandemic response plan with appropriate prevention procedures in accordance with guidelines published by jurisdictional authorities, including local Public Health Agencies. At a minimum, the response plan shall include measures and procedures for:
       1. Establishment of a pandemic response coordinator, point of contact or equivalent.
       2. Health verification of workers and visitors prior to site access.
       3. Site access, movement throughout the site, site compartmentalization, access to individual locations, and deliveries acceptance.
       4. Site meetings.
       5. Personal protective equipment including respiratory protection or other face coverings.
       6. Personal hygiene and access to hygiene facilities such as toilets and hand washing stations.
       7. Site cleaning and decontamination protocols.
       8. Potential virus contamination.
       9. Monitoring the status of workers.
       10. Return to work.
       11. Staff absence planning and business continuity.
       12. Protocol auditing.
    2. Prior to the start of construction, the Contractor shall make available on-site and communicate the pandemic policy and response plan to all affected at the Place of Work.

## Description of Work

* + 1. All aspects of the pandemic plan on-site implementation shall be the responsibility of the site superintendent (or other person designated by the Contractor).
    2. The site superintendent shall be responsible for enforcing compliance with the Contractor’s pandemic plan.

## COVID-19 prevention procedures

* + 1. Communication and awareness:
       1. Provide necessary training and orientation on infection prevention protocols and procedures to all affected individuals including the Contractor’s own forces, Subcontractors, Consultants, and visitors.
       2. Ensure clear signage is posted at entry points to the Place of Work that outlines the commitment of the Contractor to maintain health and safety measures during the pandemic situation.
    2. Promoting remote work:
       1. Promote remote work of non-essential staff (eg. support and office personnel).
       2. Conduct project related meetings virtually, where feasible.
    3. Access to the worksite:
       1. Conduct health verification screening or implement self-identification screening tools for all personnel accessing the site.
       2. Allow only essential personnel access to the site and maintain visitor logs in the event contact tracing is required.
       3. Make accommodation for high and at-risk personnel.
       4. Keep records of which individuals work together and when.
    4. On-site work procedures:
       1. Plan for workplace and activity set-up to allow for at least 2m (6’) of physical distancing. Where the minimum distance can not be maintained, encourage personnel to use face masks. N95 type respirators are not currently being recommended for use outside the clinical and health-care settings.
       2. Where deemed necessary, stagger shift start and end times, break / lunch times and crew meeting schedules to prevent overcrowding at entrances / exits, lunchrooms, trailers, and offices.
       3. Control site movement through dedicated access pathways, one-way routes, site compartmentalization or other strategies to allow for maximum physical distancing.
       4. Prevent workers from congregating in lunchrooms, meeting areas, smoking areas and other areas normally used for meetings or social interactions.
       5. Encourage meetings and other interactions to be held outdoors, or in well ventilated areas to take advantage of natural ventilation.
       6. Where possible, minimize the size of the on-site crews.
       7. Maintain at least the minimum required number (per local applicable Health and Safety legislation) of toilets and hand washing stations. Where hand washing stations are not feasible, maintain adequate supplies of hand sanitizer (70% alcohol). Ensure appropriate schedule for facility cleaning.
       8. Promote basic illness prevention hygiene (cough and sneeze etiquette) and increase hand hygiene practices.
       9. Consider providing on-site trailers with windows to allow for fresh air ventilation into the space. Set-up the trailer to allow physical distancing during interactions. Limit the number of personnel permitted in the space during one-time.
       10. Maintain a supply of face masks for use when physical distancing is not feasible.
    5. Monitoring of workers:
       1. Ensure tracking of worker’s status on-site and off-site are kept at all time (e.g. fit to work, sick, off-work for family caring duties, etc.).
       2. Encourage self-reporting of illness.
       3. Maintain a list of all quarantined workers. Ensure timely update.
    6. Protocol auditing:
       1. Perform routine job hazard analyses and inspections to evaluate appropriateness of the above measures.

## COVID-19 health and safety

* + 1. Ensure that all workers comply with the Government of Ontario’s guidelines for [Construction Site Health and Safety During COVID-19](https://www.ontario.ca/page/construction-site-health-and-safety-during-covid-19) including but not limited to:
       1. Washing hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
       2. Sneeze and cough into sleeve;
       3. Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth;
       4. Avoid contact with people who are sick;
       5. Stay home if you are sick;
       6. Avoid close contact with other people. Close contact includes being within 2m (6’) of another person.
    2. The Contractor shall monitor the latest recommendations from public health officials related to protecting workers from COVID-19 and adjust work procedures and provide personal protective equipment as per those recommendations.

**RoD SPEC NOTE:** During heightened Pandemic Times, workers might be required to complete a Health Pre-screen Checklist **before attending the Place of the Work** each day. Delete when not required.

* + 1. [Wellness screening](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wsnXUknVtkGbH52hmNw_FlnlyWm8hutHjBbygca9CvxUMVY1OFNYV1I1Q0k1VjM2TjI4UzIwMjlRVS4u):
       1. The Contractor is encouraged to follow the latest edition of the Canadian Construction Association’s document “[COVID-19 - Standardized Protocols for All Canadian Construction Sites](https://www.cca-acc.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/CCA-COVID-19-Standardized-Protocols-for-All-Canadian-Construction-Sites-04-16-20.pdf).”

# Products – not used

# Execution – not used

End of section