

April 7, 2020
LOCAL 416
HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICE
COVID 19 UPDATE



TCEU LOCAL 416
IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD, AT YOUR SERVICE

Hello Sisters and Brothers:

In times like this, our frontline workers are an essential piece of the City's operations. We are very grateful to have such a great membership in Local 416. If you are out there working, you are all heroes to us and to the residents of Toronto that depend on us everyday! Thank you for all that you do!

We've been working diligently with the City of Toronto to ensure that the health and safety of our entire membership is first and foremost and that the necessary measures are taken to protect you while you protect our community. Below are some of the important issues that what we are moving forward on:

- Toronto Paramedic Services - the continuous tracking of current life saving PPE supply in order for our medics to assist patients and provide them the care they need in a safe manner.
- Solid Waste Management - the staggering of shifts in order to offset large amounts of staff in one place; the placing of portable washrooms along the route of SWM collections in order to minimize interactions with the public; the addition of tents in locations to provide members with greater ability to maintain social distance safety.
- Transportation Services & Toronto Water - vehicles being assigned to one individual at a time if possible to minimize close interaction amongst members.

A few points to keep in mind across all City Divisions:

- When using a piece of equipment, the operator is responsible for the cleaning of touch points before use. A sanitizer/disinfectant will be provided in order for this to be carried out. Please consult with management staff for usage instructions as well as supplies.
- Regarding disinfectants, the link provided is the government approved list of disinfectants that have been shown effective against all known Human Corona Viruses. SDS information on these products are found via a google search with the product name and SDC in the search.
<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/list.html>
- As a worker, you have the right to do a work refusal if you feel that the work you are performing is dangerous under the Health and Safety Act.
- Currently, sick time is not being factored into the Attendance Management Program and will not count as an occurrence. Also, physician's notes are not required during this Covid-19 State of Emergency. These conditions will continue to be waived until the emergency is officially over.
- Any 14 day isolation period due to Covid-19 symptoms should be reported to the employer. In turn, the employer is obligated to contact Public Health and further instructions will be given to the affected individual from Public Health officials.

Importantly, all PPE supplies that have been ordered are now regulated through the EOC and are being distributed by level of priority. This means there is list to be followed for the most critical to the least critical for supply purposes.

Many thanks to the Local 416 Health and Safety teams in all Divisions, and to my team, Anthony Fracassi, Enzo Latino, Marty Holdenried and Ryan Willis.

On behalf of the Local 416 Executive Board, we thank you for your continued stewardship in our communities and workplaces. Please be safe out there. We will get through this together!

Carmine Fiore
Chief of Health & Safety