

Updated  
March 20, 2020



**BC Forest Safety**

Safety is **good** business

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## BCFSC's Response to COVID-19

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The safety and well-being of our forest industry partners, their employees and families is our priority. The spread of COVID-19 (the coronavirus) is a rapidly evolving situation and the World Health Organization has declared that COVID-19 is now categorized as a global pandemic.

As part of our commitment to keep our staff safe and to slow the spread of COVID-19, we are closing our offices effective Friday, March 20, 2020.

BCFSC staff will be working remotely and are available by phone and email so please do not hesitate to reach out for any support or questions you may have.

With respect to our day-to-day business, BCFSC has implemented the following best practices to reduce to the risk of exposure to our staff, members and affiliates who are connected to us. These practices will remain in place until further notice:

1. We have extended employee travel restrictions within our organization. These restrictions will impact: SAFE Company verifications, classroom training, new faller certifications. For information contact:

SAFE Companies: [safeco@bcforestsafesafe.org](mailto:safeco@bcforestsafesafe.org) or call 1-877-741-1060

BCFSC Training: [training@bcforestsafesafe.org](mailto:training@bcforestsafesafe.org) or call 1-877-741-1060

BCFSC Falling Department: [falling@bcforestsafesafe.org](mailto:falling@bcforestsafesafe.org) or call 1-877-741-1060

2. We are postponing upcoming classroom training programs until the end of April and will provide updates on future courses via our website and social media posts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.
3. We are rescheduling face-to-face meetings and recommending conference call and videoconferencing options. Please contact your meeting organizer for more details.
4. We are postponing large committee meetings and events.

Health and safety is always a top priority for us. Our duty of care is to ensure we are taking the necessary precautions to help lower the risk for our members, employees and their families. We appreciate the continued cooperation and understanding in working together to ensure safety in our community.

For the latest information on COVID-19, visit:

- BC Center for Disease Control: [www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/coronavirus-\(novel\)](http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/coronavirus-(novel))
- Public Health Agency of Canada: [www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html)
- World Health Organization: [www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019](http://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019)

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Useful information and resource links for workplace information:

- Know The Facts about COVID-19: [www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/about-coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/about-coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html)
- How to Be Prepared: [www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/covid-19-be-prepared-infographic.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/covid-19-be-prepared-infographic.html)
- How to Isolate At Home: [www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/covid-19-how-to-isolate-at-home.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/covid-19-how-to-isolate-at-home.html)
- Reduce the Spread – Wash Your Hands: [www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/reduce-spread-covid-19-wash-your-hands.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/reduce-spread-covid-19-wash-your-hands.html)

Added Links - March 20, 2020

- Western Forestry Contractor's Association (WFCA) COVID-19 Pandemic Guidelines for Silviculture, Wildfire and Contracting Camps & Crews: <https://wfca.ca/2020/03/wfca-covid-19-draft-guidelines/>
- Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) Pandemic Resources: [https://www.ccohs.ca/topics/hazards/health/pandemics/#ctgt\\_wb-auto-3](https://www.ccohs.ca/topics/hazards/health/pandemics/#ctgt_wb-auto-3)