**Attention:  WRHBA Builder, Developer, Consultant Member Companies**

**Cc: Board of Directors, Advisors, Liaison Cmtee Chairs & Economic Development Reps 2019/2020**

**Re:  COVID-19 Industry Updates - As At 19 MARCH 7:30p**

As Job sites remain open,The Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development is working closely with the Chief Prevention Officer for Ontario to address health and safety on jobsites and has committed to provide support, advice and enforcement, including proactive inspections as needed to ensure the health and safety of Ontario's workers.

The Ministry has released a statement: Employers are required to report all occupational illnesses, including COVID-19, to the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development in writing within four days. Employers are also required to notify their joint health and safety committee or a health and safety representative and a trade union, if they exist.

**The intent of this is to stop the spread and isolate cases.**

**Today, the Provincial government introduced and passed two bills.**

* *Bill 186, An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act, 2000*
	+ The Act provides job protection for employees unable to work
	+ An employee will be able to take infectious disease emergency leave to care for prescribed individuals in the Act
	+ The Act also makes it clear that an employee will not be required to provide a medical note if they need to take the leave
* *Bill 187, An Act to amend the Municipal Act, 2001 and the City of Toronto Act, 2006*
	+ Allows for the delivery of goods to Ontario's businesses and consumers outside of municipal noise by-laws
	+ The Act also gives municipalities the ability to fully conduct Council, local board and committee meetings electronically when faced with local and province-wide emergencies

Firmsshould be communicating with their employees and trades a minimum of once per day to ensure they are well informed on COVID-19 and the measures that are in place on-site to prevent transmission and protect workers.

To assist in these communications members are encouraged to use https://www.ihsa.ca/pdfs/safety\_talks/covid-19.pdf as well as the Waterloo Region Public Health COVID-19 information page.

1. SIGNAGE to alert workers of any signs & symptoms of acute respiratory illness
2. POSTERS promoting hand-washing and respiratory hygiene.

**Jobsite Measures**

**RESCON has developed a list of best** management practices for construction health and safety on site **during the #COVID19ON pandemic.**

**Tarion has** **provided information** **related to warranty services and unavoidable delay processes as a result of COVID-19**.

**Additional resources:**

**Ontario Ministry of Health**
**Health Canada**

**For OHBA updates as they happen visit their** **twitter page**

**Sincerely,**

**Maria Kyveris, PRESIDENT**

**Marie Schroeder, EO**

**WATERLOO REGION HOME BUILDERS’ ASSOCIATION (WRHBA)**

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