

MARCH 30, 2020

COVID-19 | WHAT TO DO WHEN PHYSICAL DISTANCING IS NOT POSSIBLE?

Physical distancing is working in proximity of 2 metres (6.5 feet) to other workers.

If physical distancing is not possible while doing work tasks, you must control the potential exposure to COVID-19, by doing the following:

First, consider whether or not the task is truly essential at this time:

- Can the task be delayed?
- Can it be safely done in another way?
- Can the number of workers involved be reduced?

If the task is considered essential and cannot be delayed, then use the following procedures:

Workers:

Workers who are considered to be at a lower risk of transmitting COVID-19 should only complete this work. Do not permit workers on to a worksite if they meet the following criteria:

- Have or had symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 10 days (cough, sneeze, sore throat, fever, difficulty breathing).
- Have travelled outside of Canada within the previous 14 days.
- Have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.
- Share a home with someone who has been exposed to COVID-19.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

All workers who cannot maintain physical distance (2 meters, 6.5 ft) should use PPE including:

- N95 or half-face respirator with P95 or P100 filters.
 - Where possible half-face respirators with P95 or P100 are preferred since
 - 1) they are more protective and;
 - 2) N95 are used by health care workers and are in short supply.
- Disposable nitrile gloves.
- Coveralls.
- Safety glasses.
- Workers must be trained on how to properly don (put on), use, and doff (take off) PPE; how to properly dispose of or disinfect, inspect for damage, maintain PPE, and the limitations of PPE.
- Fit testing must be completed for workers wearing half mask respirator and/or N95 masks.

- Workers must be clean-shaven when using respirators/masks.
- Provide a plastic disposal bag for disposal of consumables (N95 masks, nitrile gloves, cleaning wipes). Seal the disposal bag and store it with other garbage.
- Dispose of N95 masks and Nitrile gloves after use in the disposal bag.
- Sanitize glasses and half mask respirators using disposable wipes. Dispose of disposable wipes in the disposal bag.
- When complete store reusable PPE and coveralls in a storage room. Ensure no cross contamination between PPE belonging to different workers.
- Do not wear coveralls home. Wash coveralls daily if possible.

Handwashing

- Provide a handwashing or hand sanitizing station that is easily accessible for the affected workers.
- Wash hands thoroughly when gloves are removed and at the end of the task for which less than 2 meters of distance is required.
- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. When soap and running water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand rub with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands that are visibly soiled.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with bare or gloved hands.

Cleaning/Disinfecting

- When task is completed ensure the tools that were used are cleaned and disinfected (see BCCSA document on Enhanced Surface Cleaning and Disinfection).
- Clean and disinfect all high-touch surfaces in the area.

	WORK METHOD STEP <i>Describe the task step by step</i>	HAZARD/RISK <i>What are the hazards of each step?</i>	CONTROL METHODS & MONITORING <i>What hazard safe guards will be used? How will the effectiveness of the controls be determined? (Inspection & ongoing monitoring)</i>
1.	Confirm work to be completed requires workers to encroach on the 6-foot physical distancing requirement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workers are unfamiliar with procedure and Exposure control plan. Specialized PPE not available. Miscommunication. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workers will review this procedure and the COVID-19 Exposure control plan (Attached) before completing this work. FLRA to be completed before task with additional PPE noted and reason for breaking social distancing rules. Workers will wear an N95 mask, nitrile gloves, and safety glasses when encroaching on the 6ft social distancing rule. Workers will decontaminate tools/equipment/PPE at the beginning of each day by wiping down or spraying down with disinfectant. Workers will be clean shaven for N95 mask use as per manufactures recommendations. If PPE not available these tasks will be postponed until, PPE is available.
2.	Complete various electrical related tasks while within 6-feet of co-workers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential overlapping within work area with other trades. Co- Activity. Workers not following procedure. Workers displaying signs or symptoms of COVID-19. Transmission of COVID-19. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workers will ensure additional PPE is being worn at all times. Before eating, drinking or smoking workers will wash their hands to the WHO standard. Shared tools will be decontaminated when switching from different users by using disinfectant wipes or spray. Supervision will regularly review ongoing task to ensure compliance with this SWP. Workers are to report anyone with signs or symptoms of COVID-19 to their supervision immediately.
3.	End of task/end of shift.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miscommunication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report any developing symptoms of COVID-19 to supervisor immediately. Report any workers displaying signs or symptoms of COVID-19 to supervisor immediately.