



## Marine Security Operations

**SPECIAL**

# MARINE SECURITY NOTIFICATION

**# 2020-007**

**Issue: Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)**

*For immediate dissemination*

### **Purpose**

This **Marine Security Notification (MSN)** provides an update to MSN #2020-006 issued on March 27, 2020, which is hereby rescinded.

Transport Canada (TC) continues to monitor the evolving public health threat of the COVID-19, both internationally and nationally, with a view of mitigating its effect on Canada's maritime transportation system.

### **Direction and Guidance**

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and public health authorities of local jurisdiction are leading the response to the current COVID-19 public health event. Transport Canada is supporting the response in the marine transportation mode.

- While in transit from international or foreign waters and upon arrival at the first Canadian port of call, vessels with presumptive or confirmed cases of COVID-19 will be dealt with by the PHAC.
- Once a vessel has arrived at its first Canadian port of call – or for a Canadian registered vessel engaged on a domestic voyage, the management of any subsequent presumptive or confirmed case of COVID-19 would be led by the public health agency of local jurisdiction.

The PHAC website noted below provides information, tools and facts about symptoms, risks and how to prevent, treat and manage COVID-19. <http://canada.ca/coronavirus>

A description of the symptoms of COVID-19 may be found on the PHAC website. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/symptoms.html>

Employers should consult the COVID-19 guidelines provided by the PHAC. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/guidance-documents/risk-informed-decision-making-workplaces-businesses-covid-19-pandemic.html>

For information on COVID-19, refer also to the frequently asked questions web page. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html#faq>

Sources of additional information on COVID-19, relative to specific provinces, may be found at the following PHAC website. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/symptoms/provincial-territorial-resources-covid-19.html>

PHAC makes regular updates to their website providing information on COVID-19. It is important that you visit the site for the latest information. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/canadas-reponse.html>

If you have additional questions that are not answered on the PHAC website:

- Call 1-833-784-4397 (interpretation services are available in multiple languages)
- E-mail [phac.covid19.aspc@canada.ca](mailto:phac.covid19.aspc@canada.ca)

Additionally, TC has created a website that provides updates on transportation-related measures it has taken in response to COVID-19.

<https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/initiatives/covid-19-measures-updates-guidance-tc.html>

### **Operation of Vessels in Coastal Waters - Foreign Flagged ships and Canadian Flagged Vessels on International Voyages**

- As per the Quarantine Act, prior to arrival of a vessel at its destination in Canada, the vessel operator must inform a quarantine officer, or cause a quarantine officer to be informed if any person, cargo or other things on board the conveyance could cause the spreading of a communicable disease (such as COVID-19).
- Foreign and Canadian flagged vessels are to pay particular attention to ensuring that all required components of the 96 Pre-Arrival Information Report (PAIR) and 24 Hour Report are completed in accordance with section 221 of the Marine Transportation Security Regulations (MTSR).
- Reporting of illnesses aboard a vessel to the PHAC should be made through the existing PAIR reporting process to Transport Canada Marine Safety and Security (TCMSS).
- Based on that information provided, PHAC will provide follow-on direction to the vessel.

- In the event that PHAC determines a crew member or passenger onboard a vessel to be at risk, notification will be provided to other organizations (this may include but is not limited to the CBSA, CCG, TC Marine Safety, and appropriate pilotage and port authorities).
- Should a vessel have an ill or symptomatic crew member or passenger after having arrived in Canada, vessel operators should inform the appropriate local health authority and the ship's agent for further direction.
- Ships' agents are asked to inform the applicable pilotage authority of the state of the ship's health when requesting pilots for harbour movements or for the outbound passage.
- Vessel operators with crew members and passengers symptomatic of the Coronavirus are to advise Transport Canada Marine Safety and Security following transmission of the 96 hour PAIR.

### **Operation of Vessels Entering Internal Waters from International Voyages (for example, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River)**

- As per the Quarantine Act, prior to arrival of a vessel at its destination in Canada, the vessel operator must inform a Quarantine officer, or cause a Quarantine officer to be informed if any person, cargo or other things on board the conveyance could cause the spreading of a communicable disease (such as COVID-19).
- For those voyages of foreign and Canadian flagged vessels requiring a PAIR report, this shall be provided in accordance with section 221 of the MTSR.
- Reporting illnesses aboard a vessel to the PHAC should be made through the existing PAIR reporting process to Transport Canada Marine Safety and Security (TCMSS).
- Based on that information provided, PHAC will provide follow-on direction to the vessel.
- In the event that PHAC determines a crew member or passenger onboard a vessel to be at risk, notification will be provided to other organizations (this may include but is not limited to the CBSA, CCG, TC Marine Safety, and appropriate pilotage and port authorities).
- Should a vessel have an ill or symptomatic crew member or passenger after having arrived in Canada, vessel operators should inform the appropriate local health authority and the ship's agent for further direction.
- Ships' agents are asked to inform the applicable pilotage authority of the state of the ship's health when requesting pilots for harbour movements or for the outbound passage.

### **Vessels Engaged on Domestic Voyages in Canada**

- When alongside, either prior to departure or after arrival, vessel operators should inform the responsible provincial or local health authorities and the vessel's agent of crew members and passengers displaying an illness symptomatic of COVID-19 on board.
- During a voyage, vessel operators with crew members and passengers displaying signs and reporting symptoms of a suspected infectious disease should advise the responsible provincial or local health authorities as well as appropriate service providers (dependent

on location and nature of the vessel's work, which may include marine communications and traffic services, pilotage authorities, port authority, and marine facility operators).

### **Other Maritime Stakeholders**

- Other maritime stakeholders - including port or marine facility operators, pilotage authorities, ships' crew members, port staff, inspectors, shore-based support technicians - who observe anyone operating on or around a vessel where those persons are displaying an illness symptomatic of COVID-19 should inform the responsible provincial or local health authorities.

### **Contact Transport Canada Marine Safety and Security**

- For Western Canada - please e-mail [marsecw@tc.gc.ca](mailto:marsecw@tc.gc.ca)
- For Eastern Canada, St. Lawrence Seaway, Great Lakes, and the Canadian Arctic - please e-mail [marsece@tc.gc.ca](mailto:marsece@tc.gc.ca)

### **Questions or Comments**

*Other comments, suggestions or concerns – including the identification of best practices - can be addressed to the Director, Marine Security Operations at [dirops.marsec-sumar@tc.gc.ca](mailto:dirops.marsec-sumar@tc.gc.ca)*