

Hello,

We would like to send you a few updates regarding COVID-19 and ask you to share this information in your networks. Please continue to consult the [AAFC website](#) regularly for updates.

1. Regulation of masks, respirators and face coverings in Canada

Health Canada recently provided a presentation on the weekly stakeholder conference call regarding the regulation of masks, respirators and face coverings in Canada. Further to that presentation, below, are some additional links regarding medical devices, personal protective equipment (PPE) and filtering facepiece respirators (FFR):

- [Authorized medical devices for uses related to COVID-19: List of authorized medical devices other than testing devices](#)
- [NIOSH N95 designation for filtering facepiece respirators \(FFR\)](#)
- [Safety and performance specifications for respirators during COVID-19: Guidance for Canadian manufacturers](#)

2. Revamped CanExport program to help small and medium agri-food businesses

On November 6, 2020, the Government of Canada [announced](#) changes to the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service's CanExport SMEs program to better support small- and medium-sized businesses by covering some of the costs associated with developing and expanding their e-commerce presence, attending virtual trade shows and other business-to-business events and, help them to navigate new COVID-19-related trade barriers.

- CanExport SMEs offers small- and medium-sized businesses up to \$75,000 to assist with international market development activities in markets where they have little to no sales.
- Industry is encouraged to reach out to [GAC/CanExport](#) directly with program-related questions. A link to the program email address is provided [here](#).

3. Connecting all Canadians to high-speed Internet

On November 9, 2020, Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau [announced](#) an investment of \$1.75 billion to help connect Canadians to high-speed Internet across the country, to grow businesses, and create jobs. This investment will connect 98 per cent of Canadians across the country to high-speed Internet by 2026, with the goal of connecting all Canadians by 2030.

4. Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety Resources (CCOHS)

The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) recently released new guidance material on [COVID-19 Prevention for Workers](#), which includes information on what workers can do to protect themselves and others from COVID 19, and the rights and responsibilities of workers when it comes to health and safety in the workplace.

As a reminder, CCOHS has a lot of valuable information available online. This includes a customizable tool kit and access to more than 40 free resources, including a [COVID-19: Workplace Health and Safety Guide](#), and Tip Sheets specific to [Agriculture](#) and [Food Processing](#). The Tool Kit option allows workplaces to download the guide on its own or bundle other industry and

workplace-specific tip sheets, infographics, and posters to create a customized and comprehensive COVID-19 tool kit tailored to their industry or specific workplace needs.

5. Outstanding responses from previous Industry calls

Attached is a question and answer document from Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) with some questions and answers in follow-up to some outstanding questions from previous industry calls.

We encourage you strongly to share your comments and questions in writing through the AAFC Roundtable account (aafc.roundtable-table ronde.aac@canada.ca).

Thank you,
Industry Engagement Division
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