



DATE: November 25, 2020

TO: Depot Network

RE: **New, Mandatory COVID-19 Measures - Impact on Depots**

Attention depot operators and staff:

The safety of the Depot Network and the Albertans we serve continues to be our top priority. We recognize this is a difficult time for businesses and individuals, and we appreciate your ongoing support as you provide an essential service that Albertans rely on.

Yesterday, Premier Jason Kenny declared a public health emergency and announced new [mandatory public health measures](#) to protect the health system and slow the spread of COVID-19 in Alberta. The mandatory restrictions will be in place for at least three weeks.

Mandatory Masks

Most notable for the Depot network is that effective immediately in the [Calgary and Edmonton areas](#), **masks are mandatory in all indoor workplaces**, except when working alone in an office, a safely distanced work space or where an appropriate barrier is in place. This applies to all employees, visitors, delivery personnel and contractors. It includes all locations where employees are present and where masks will not pose a safety risk. As most Depots staff are already wearing masks, this should not be new, but please note their use is now mandatory.

Depots Non-Restricted Businesses

The BCMB has confirmed that Depots are still considered an essential service and are part of the Government of Alberta's [non-restricted business category](#). While this means Depots are exempt from the capacity limit of 25% occupancy set under the Alberta Fire Code for retail businesses, you must still follow [general and sector-specific guidance](#) and have enhanced infection prevention and controls in place as you have since the pandemic began.

It remains extremely important that Depots remain vigilant with your health and safety measures to protect your staff and customers. Please remember you may be visited at any time by Alberta Health Services (AHS) or BCMB Compliance Officers. The BCMB trusts you will continue to use your best judgment while serving the public and ensure safety precautions remain a priority.





COVID Response Plan

As an ongoing reminder, the BCMB encourages Depots to be prepared and consider having a COVID Response Plan in place. [Alberta Health Services](#) (AHS) should be your first contact if you or one of your employees tests positive for COVID-19. They will be able to guide you through any steps you will need to take to prevent further transmission and to meet public health orders and guidelines.

If you suspect that an employee may have contracted COVID-19 or if they confirm they have tested positive, please immediately submit a “Positive COVID-19 Case at Depot” Quality Monitoring System (QMS) ticket with as much detail as possible. This will allow us to stay informed and work together to prevent further transmission.

If you need assistance logging into the QMS, or if you have any questions, please contact a Compliance Officer using the information under the Contact Us page on our website:

<https://www.bcmb.ab.ca/contact/>

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation and commitment to keeping your customers and staff safe.

