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 <u>AAFC website</u> regularly for updates.

# 1. <u>Government of Canada's first phase to easing border measures for travellers entering</u> <u>Canada</u>

On July 21, 2021, the Government of Canada <u>announced</u> the details of the first phase of its approach to easing border measures for travellers entering Canada. These cautious adjustments are now possible because of the successes of the vaccine roll out in Canada and Canadians following public health measures.

Of note, is the **exemption for eligible fully vaccinated travellers who are currently permitted to enter Canada (including TFW)** - (<u>COVID-19 vaccinated travellers entering Canada</u>):

- If eligible to enter Canada and fully vaccinated, travellers may be eligible for exemption from quarantine and reduced testing requirements. These exemptions apply to both air and land travel into Canada.
- To be considered fully vaccinated, travellers must:
  - have received the full series of a vaccine—or a combination of vaccines—accepted by the Government of Canada at least 14 days prior to entering Canada;
  - $\circ~$  provide proof of vaccination digitally using ArriveCAN; **AND**
  - submit proof of vaccination in English or French (or a certified translation from original language into English or French)

# 2. Federal Quarantine, Isolation and Other Obligations – Extended to July 21, 2021

The COVID-19 federal Emergency Orders in Council (OIC) pursuant to section 58 of the *Quarantine Act* have been extended to July 21, 2021.

- Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States)
- Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country Other than the United States)
- Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Quarantine, Isolation and Other Obligations):

# 3. Summer 2021 AAFC COVID-19 Stakeholder Calls

Based on received responses to a survey sent to all sector representatives and provincial/territorial officials to seek their feedback on the current AAFC COVID-19 engagement mechanisms in place, as well as monitoring of the COVID-19 situation in the agriculture and agri-food sector, AAFC will take the following approach for July and August:

- Change the call frequency to monthly, maintain the Wednesday at noon (EST) timeslot.
  - We will confirm by sending invitations, but possible dates for the calls are July 14<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> and August 18<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup>
- While we will continue to provide any relevant government updates, we intend to use the calls largely for stakeholders to ask questions and provide information from the sector.
- We will continue to send the weekly email updates every Friday to distribute relevant information to the sector, and sector representatives can still email the Roundtable account if there are questions or concerns.

Rest assured that the department is closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation and any impacts on the sector. If there is a need, we can hold ad hoc calls or re-start the calls quickly and efficiently, and invite you to let us know through the RoundTable account if you feel circumstances warrant holding additional calls. We will re-evaluate our approach closer to September and will communicate any changes to our COVID-19 engagement at that time.

We welcome any questions/comments on this change either through the Roundtable account (<u>aafc.roundtable-tableronde.aac@agr.gc.ca</u>), or by contacting AAFC officials directly.

## 4. Digital engagement travel toolkit

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has also released a bilingual **digital engagement travel toolkit** (pdf bilingual document, attached) for cross-border travellers, which includes information and hyperlinks on up-to-date border measures, including exemptions for fully vaccinated travelers. This is a general tool, and not specific to TFW, and so does not go into detail about existing exemptions for TFWs. Please note that the exemption from GAA for TFW who can travel directly to their employer's quarantine location through private means remains in effect.

## 5. <u>Newsletter – COVID-19 and your business</u>

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) has developed a newsletter in response to a need for Canadian businesses to obtain direct information on COVID-19 updates, tools and resources, on topics such as vaccination and workplace testing.

Those interested in subscribing can do so by clicking here, or through the Canada Business App.

For inquiries related to the content, ISED recommends newsletter recipients/subscribers reach out to the phone number provided in the newsletter: **1-833-784-4397.** 

## 6. Information on Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) from the Public Health Agency of Canada

There are a number of updated resources available on the Public Health Agency of Canada website for the public including an **Outbreak Update** and the **COVID-19 Virtual Assistant**: <u>Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)</u>. Your organization may also be interested in:

#### Recommendations on the use of COVID-19 Vaccines

## Vaccines

- COVID-19 Vaccines:
  - o **NEW!** <u>Reported side effects following COVID-19 vaccination in Canada</u>
  - o Vaccines for COVID-19: Shipments and deliveries
  - o Drug and vaccine authorizations for COVID-19: List of applications received
  - o <u>COVID-19 Treatments</u>
- General information:
  - o **NEW!** Industry Advisory Roundtable on COVID-19 testing: Border measures
  - **NEW!** Expert Advisory Group Report 1: Charting a Path toward Ambition
  - o UPDATE! Drug and vaccine authorizations for COVID-19: List of applications received
  - **NEW!** Joint Statement w/WHO: How COVID-19 vaccines are regulated for safety and effectiveness
  - **NEW!** <u>COVID-19 summaries of recent evidence</u>

- o UPDATE! International response
- o <u>COVID-19: Vaccine safety and side effects</u>
- o <u>COVID-19: Provincial and territorial resources</u>
- o <u>Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): Prevention and risks</u>
- o <u>National and provincial/territorial COVID-19 epidemiology and surveillance trends</u>
- o <u>Taking care of your mental and physical health during the COVID-19 pandemic</u>
- <u>Reports of myocarditis and pericarditis after COVID-19 vaccination: Communiqué to</u> <u>health practitioners (June 3, 2021)</u>
- <u>Conducting a clinical trial for COVID-19 medical devices: List of authorized clinical trials</u>
- o <u>COVID-19 variants</u>
- Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): <u>Travel restrictions, exemptions and advice</u>
  - **NEW!** Fully vaccinated travellers entering Canada during COVID-19
  - o **NEW!** <u>COVID-19 and travel: Exemptions from testing and quarantine</u>
  - o UPDATE! Entering Canada by air during COVID-19
  - o <u>COVID-19: Travel, testing, quarantine and borders</u>
  - o <u>Transit through Canadian waters</u>
  - o Apply for an exemption for compassionate reasons: Requirements
  - o <u>Arrival Testing</u>
- Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): Awareness resources
  - **NEW!** <u>COVID-19: Host an engagement session on vaccines and public health</u> <u>measures in your community</u>
  - NEW! COVID-19 vaccines: We can all help by getting vaccinated
  - UPDATE! Video series: "My Why" on getting the COVID-19 vaccine
  - UPDATE! Ask the experts video series: COVID-19 vaccines questions
  - Video: Limit the spread of COVID-19

For any questions: phac.hpoc.stakeholders-partiesprenantes.cops.aspc@canada.ca

## <u>Reminder: Next AAFC COVID-19 stakeholder call will be held Wednesday July 14<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> at noon EST.</u> <u>We will confirm as soon as possible by sending a scheduler.</u>

We encourage you strongly to share your comments and questions in writing through the AAFC Roundtable account (<u>aafc.roundtable-tableronde.aac@agr.gc.ca</u>).

Industry Engagement Division Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Government of Canada