



KEEPING YOU SAFE AT WORK: MARINE SECTOR HEALTH AND COVID-19

Canada's ports play a key role in the economy and international trade. The marine transportation sectors on the Pacific coast are prepared for the heightened risk posed by COVID-19. Here's how the West Coast marine community keeps you safe at work, while moving goods safely and efficiently through our ports:



SHIPPING LINES:

Even before entering Canadian waters, companies are taking precautions to keep crews and port workers safe. For example, crews are being screened prior to boarding. Crew changes may no longer be occurring in high risk countries. Extra onboard cleaning according to health guidelines from the International Maritime Organization and the World Health Organization, is taking place.



TRANSPORT CANADA:

All ships from foreign countries must report to Transport Canada 96-hours before entering Canadian waters. Once Transport Canada receives the report, they confirm the health status of the crew with the master. Reports are shared with the Public Health Agency of Canada for immediate action.

If needed, directions are given to the ship and to stakeholders like port operators and pilots. Transport Canada is also working with other government partners like the Canada Border Services Agency, the Canadian Coast Guard, and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.



CANADA BORDER SERVICES AGENCY (Pacific Coast Only):

All ships must submit pre-arrival notification to the CBSA, through the 96-hour report, with crew and traveller lists, prior to arrival in Canada. The CBSA performs customs and immigration clearances, and under the Quarantine Act, ensures everyone is screened for communicable diseases.

To expedite health screening, when a vessel reaches the first port of arrival, ship agents/ masters **must** provide contact information and completed traveller **health screening forms** to the CBSA at MarineE-PAN.PAC-CBS@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca. This health screening was previously conducted only in-person or by phone. To note, ships may still be boarded by the CBSA as required.

*First port of arrival (FPOA) is the first port of entry in Canada where a commercial conveyance (i.e., cargo vessel) arrives from a foreign country. The vessel may stop for any reason including but not limited to: load and/or discharge cargo, anchoring, bunkering, safety inspections, crew changes, diversions, etc. The completed traveller health screening forms and contact information **cannot be submitted to the CBSA prior to reaching the FPOA.**



MASTERS AND CREW:

Any time after the 96-hour pre-arrival inspection report, the ship master must immediately report any changes in crew health to Transport Canada.

Healthy crew members are permitted shore leave for four hours at a shore-based facility on port grounds or in a nearby location. They must follow port and COVID-19 protocols.



PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY OF CANADA:

When symptoms are reported, a Public Health Agency of Canada Quarantine Officer will speak to the master and crew, to assess symptoms that may require public health measures. For example, the crew may be asked to isolate themselves, wear a mask, or seek medical care.

The Public Health Agency of Canada will report back to Transport Canada.



PORT AUTHORITIES AND TERMINAL OPERATORS:

Operators and front line workers are equipped and trained in occupational health and safety procedures and follow guidelines from their workplace health and safety experts.

Marine workers should have in their possession a face covering, which should be worn when physical distancing cannot be maintained, or when local authorities require it.

Everyone can help reduce the spread of COVID-19:

The Public Health Agency of Canada reminds Canadians to stay home and away from others if you are sick, wash your hands often, cover your cough with a tissue or your sleeve, practise physical distancing (2 metres), clean and disinfect surfaces and objects regularly and wear a non-medical mask or cloth face covering indoors in public spaces or when it is not possible to maintain physical distance.

Any suspicion of a communicable disease on board must be reported immediately to a PHAC Quarantine Officer before arrival.

<https://tc.canada.ca/en/initiatives/covid-19-measures-updates-guidance-issued-transport-canada>