



As Canadians are facing a difficult time with the current COVID 19 Pandemic. Here at COPE Local 397, the health and safety of our members is first and foremost.

The situation is ever changing and evolving as the Federal and Provincial Governments implement measures to address the pandemic. We ask our members to adhere to the recommended measures for the Province to protect yourself including:

- Handwashing – wash your hands well and often. Wash for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
 - Use a household cleaner or wipe to clean surfaces and objects that people touch a lot.
 - Practice proper coughing and sneezing etiquette.
- Try not to touch your face, mouth, nose and eyes
- Social Distancing
 - Avoid people who are sick
 - Do not shake hands, hug or kiss
 - Maintain a 2-metre distance when interacting with others
 - Meetings of 15 or more people – cancel, reschedule or find another method to remotely conduct the meeting if it must be held.
- Self-Isolation/Self Monitoring
 - If you have travelled outside of Canada recently – self isolate for 14 days upon your return to the country
 - If you start to exhibit any respiratory or flu-like symptoms, stay home and contact your health authority (dial 811)
 - If you have been in direct contact with an individual who is officially diagnosed with COVID-19, you need to self monitor for 14 days and avoid crowded places
- Avoid non-essential travel

We are working with all the employers in our Bargaining Units to address the safety of all of our members. Your safety is very important to us. We will keep you informed as we become aware of changes in the workplace.

We want you all to know that at SGI we have requested a briefing with the company on what their plan is to protect our members on their safety and the business continuity of the Corporation.

We have received direction that the constituency offices will be closed to the public and accepting contact via phone or email. They will advise what door sign needs to say and the protocol. We are relieved that these members health and safety is being taken seriously.

We are in the process of reaching out to our other members and employers in Alberta and Manitoba to ensure that there are safety precautions in place for them as well. We do not want any member feeling isolated.

At this time I would like to suggest that all our members reach out to their MLA's and Elected Officials ask for their assurance that they will have provisions in place for those facing financial difficulties due to this Pandemic and ask what the government is going to do for you going forward.

Please watch our website and Facebook for updates as they are available.

In Solidarity,

Kim Wilson
President COPE Local 397