

Huddle Message for March

19, 2020 (Part 1)

GM Canada will continue to follow direction from the Canadian government related to managing the Coronavirus. Our local site leadership teams are continuing to share messages with important information about the steps we are taking to keep our workplace safe and address questions coming out of this forum. Based on yesterday's meetings and government updates, here are the top areas of interest.

GM Canada, FCA Canada, Ford Canada, Unifor – Canadian Task Force:

General Motors of Canada, FCA Canada, Ford Canada and Unifor announced a joint task force to implement enhanced protections for manufacturing and warehouse employees at all three companies during the current COVID-19 / Coronavirus crisis.

The Canadian Task Force includes:

- Jerry Dias, President, Unifor
- Scott Bell, President & Managing Director, GM Canada
- David Buckingham, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, FCA Canada Inc.
- Dean Stoneley, President & CEO, Ford of Canada

The Canadian Task Force will meet weekly to address issues and take appropriate actions and continue to follow the advice of medical staff and experts to help keep workers and their families protected from the COVID-19 virus. They are also maintaining ongoing communication with government and health officials at all levels.

Canadian Government Updates:

In order to help manage the spread of COVID-19 the prime minister of Canada made [announcements](#) this week to close its borders to non-Canadians. US citizens with no symptoms will be allowed entry for now but will be required to self-isolate for 14-days, unless they meet the exemption criteria. Additionally, the Ontario provincial government has [declared](#) a state of emergency and implemented enhanced public health measures to help contain further spread.

As result of these announcements please be advised of the following updates on GM Canada's work practices and travel guidance.

Impact to Manufacturing and Parts Distribution Centres:

- There is recognition from the government that there are a number of workplaces where virtual work arrangements are not possible, and they are able to be sustained at this time in a manner that maintains social distancing.
- We are also practicing additional health and safety procedures including; health screening, production breaks for extra cleaning, ongoing health and safety education and communication with employees.

Travel:

- If you have travelled out of the country, you should self-isolate for 14-days since your arrival in Canada. Employees who are self-isolating should not go to work.
- If a member of your household is self-isolating due to travel outside of Canada, self-isolation for yourself is not required.
- However, there are some exceptions on the global movement of goods and people and the ongoing delivery of essential services.
- This exemption applies to healthy people who have to cross the border to go to work, which includes GM employees who have SLT approval to travel to Canada to perform business critical work.

US Citizens Working in Canada:

- If you are a US cross-border employee with no symptoms, you are considered exempt from the 14-day quarantine.
- If you are showing symptoms, please observe the self-isolation requirements.
- *Note: Canadian residents who are working in the US should seek guidance from GM US regarding US immigration rules.*

Personal Travel:

- Due to the most recent travel advisory issued by the federal government on March 16, detailing new border policies for travelers and “to avoid non-essential travel outside of Canada until further notice,” employees electing to travel to another country on or after **March 16, 2020** will be required to self-isolate for 14-days upon return and **will not be paid during this time period**, unless on an approved paid leave, or the nature of work can be seamlessly completed remotely.

Q&A:

What is GM doing to address the need for cleaning supplies, including gloves?

GM is working closely with all facilities to determine their needs for cleaning supplies, including gloves and giving purchasing priorities to those that need them.

What proactive and preventative food service measures is GM recommending to sites?

Preventative steps that have been taken include increased cleaning of touch point areas, elimination of all self-service stations, elimination of all items that cannot be easily disinfected, and using only single serve containers and utensils. We have incorporated additional training for food service team members, monitoring of hygiene standards as well as confirming the health of food service employees prior to the start of their shift.

GM St. Catharines is also asking that all ‘coffee clubs’ disband until further notice as the monitoring of their hygiene standards cannot be overseen by the site.