

Coronavirus disease COVID-19 outbreak – Update #4

Returning to work after COVID-19

As Canadian businesses prepare to reopen, employers are facing issues they've not had to deal with before. There are many mandatory, provincial, and federal regulations employers are obligated to follow to help eliminate the risk of COVID-19 infections in their workplaces. Beyond establishing and implementing new protocols, employers need to be prepared to deal with employees' unique situations and determine how they can best accommodate each individual's circumstances.

Current state

According to Health Canada, the risk of COVID-19 varies across communities but overall, the risk to Canadians is high. Current statistics on the confirmed number of cases in Canada can be found on the Government of Canada site.

For current information on the federal government's emergency support programs:

- · For individuals
- · For businesses

The process

Some businesses had to drastically reduce or completely stop operations, while others were able to continue business with modifications like having employees working primarily from home. Regardless of the temporary work arounds, employers are now dealing with the issues that are part of bringing employees back to the workplace, ranging from administrative work to ensuring their workplace is safe to managing the fears employees may have around COVID-19 in the workplace.

Ensure you're equipped

We've created resources, tools, and reference materials to provide you with easy access to the information you need.

Our COVID-19 Information Centre includes information for you and your plan members. Review relevant articles including Returning to Work Post COVID-19 for information ranging from the federal government's federal funding, to mandatory HR guidelines, to ensuring your accommodating employees appropriately.

Also available for you:

- A webinar series on COVID and the workplace
- Coverage details relating to STD, EAP, health and wellness, and more
- Links to related information including the federal government's response benefits, small business supports, the work-share program, and more
- Our Keeping you informed newsletter series
- Links to COVID-19-related content provided by other insurance carriers' and service providers'

For your plan members:

- The benefits of being with People newsletter series
- Coverage details on travel, STD, EAP, health and wellness, and more
- Our series of newsletter articles regarding the impact of the pandemic on savings and investments
- Links to virtual health care resources and services

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Return to work checklist

People Corporation's People First HR Services has created a return to work webinar and checklist that can be used as a great starting point. Use this checklist to help in your planning process, and to help ensure your return to work plan is organized and well structured.

Virtual health care services

Demand for virtual health care was growing before the COVID-19 pandemic. It offers greater access to care during extended hours and weekends, patients don't have to wait at urgent care facilities, and of course, location isn't an issue. Check out our Virtual Health Care <u>Guide</u> for information on health care services that are covered by provincial health care plans and for information on our innovative and affordable virtual health care options.

Additional services and information

These are challenging times. The services we've developed range from sophisticated virtual health care services, to webinars that provide you with expert insight into HR requirements, to toolkits that help ensure you've got every aspect of your return to work plan fully covered.

We're here to help

If you have questions or want more information on our suite of services, please contact your People Corporation benefits consultant.

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