

January 22, 2020

Re: BCMEA Coronavirus Update

In December 2019, a cluster of respiratory infections appeared in Wuhan, China. The illnesses have been attributed to a new coronavirus. Cases of the virus have also been reported in other cities in China and regions including Japan, Taiwan, United States, South Korea and Thailand.

According to the United States Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause a range of symptoms. Some are mild, such as the common cold, while others are more likely to lead to pneumonia. They are usually spread through direct contact with an infected person.

Further, the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC), rates the risk of coronavirus transmission for British Columbians low at this time. To date, there have been no cases of illnesses caused by coronavirus in British Columbia or elsewhere in Canada. For more on facts on the virus, please visit the BCCDC website for [current information](#).

At this point, there are no anticipated impacts to operations on the waterfront.

The BCMEA is communicating with Transport Canada and Health Canada on the latest developments and will send updates as they become available.

Should you have any follow up or additional questions regarding workforce operations, please do not hesitate to contact John Beckett, VP, Operations (jbeckett@bcmea.com) for further details.

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