



# **Update on COVID-19 (Coronavirus)**

**March 12, 2020**

Automotive Aftermarket Retailers of Ontario (AARO) continues to closely monitor the outbreak of COVID-19, also known as the coronavirus.

The association has initiated its emergency management plan process and is in regular communication with local Public Health officials. We will continue to update this site as new information becomes available. We encourage everyone to check this site frequently for new information.

## **Upcoming Events and Activities**

As of Thursday, March 12, AARO will be re-assessing all events and activities on a case-by-case basis moving forward.

## **Employees traveling on Association business**

Effective immediately and until further notice, there will be no business-related travel, domestic or international, for all association employees. All other discretionary travel should be avoided, if possible. For meetings, the association strongly encourages employees to use options such as phone-in, Skype, Zoom and video conferencing.

## **March break travel for personal reasons**

With March break approaching, many employees will have made plans to travel with family. AARO is asking employees to closely monitor and follow the Government of Canada guidelines and travel advisories.

For travel information, visit:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/latest-travel-health-advice.html>

Please note that Global Affairs Canada is advising Canadians to avoid all cruise ship travel.

## Travel to countries most impacted by COVID-19

Those who have returned **from China, Iran, Italy, Japan or South Korea** in the last 14 days must:

- **Stay at home** and avoid close contact with others, including anyone in their household, for a total of 14 days from the date they left one of the countries above.
- Contact their local Public Health Unit within 24 hours of arriving in Canada; (Hamilton Public Health Unit 905-546-2424, ext 7970) (Toronto Public Health Unit 416-338-7600) (Peel Public Health 905-799-7700)
- Learn more about [self-isolation tips](#)

## Procedure for confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19

If an employee suspects that they may be infected with COVID-19, they must self-report it to the Shop Owner and Family Doctor as soon as possible. The Family doctor will work with Public Health to determine next steps. If you have any questions about this process, please contact us at [diane.freeman@aaro.ca](mailto:diane.freeman@aaro.ca)

## Practice good personal hygiene

One of the best ways to prevent the spread of illness is to practice good personal hygiene. Standard practices to reduce the spread of respiratory viruses include:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze; if you don't have a tissue, sneeze or cough into your sleeve or arm.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

## **Employees should continue to follow protocols in place by the Shop owners below:**

- **Signage on Front Door Entry advising Customers that feeling unwell with symptoms such as cough, runny nose, fever, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea should NOT enter the premises and they should contact the Public Health Department and Family Doctor.**
- **All surfaces including door handles, counters and public areas such as chairs, tables, should be disinfected at the start of each day and throughout the day as required.**
- **Hand Sanitizer should be on front counters for all customers and employees.**
- **Signage in washrooms key locations reminding everyone of the importance of good personal hygiene.**
- **Bathrooms should be disinfected daily and hand soap should be refilled daily with paper towels.**
- **All vehicles coming into the bays should have the steering wheel wiped down and door handles.**

## **Support for employees and members of AARO**

AARO will continue to work closely with Public Health to support employees and members who may be required to follow the self-isolation protocol.

Employees who need support are encouraged to contact the association.

## **Stay home if you are ill**

Employees who are feeling unwell with symptoms such as cough, runny nose, fever, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea should stay home until they are feeling well. Employees must report their absence in accordance with shop owners' procedures.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at [diane.freeman@aaro.ca](mailto:diane.freeman@aaro.ca)

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