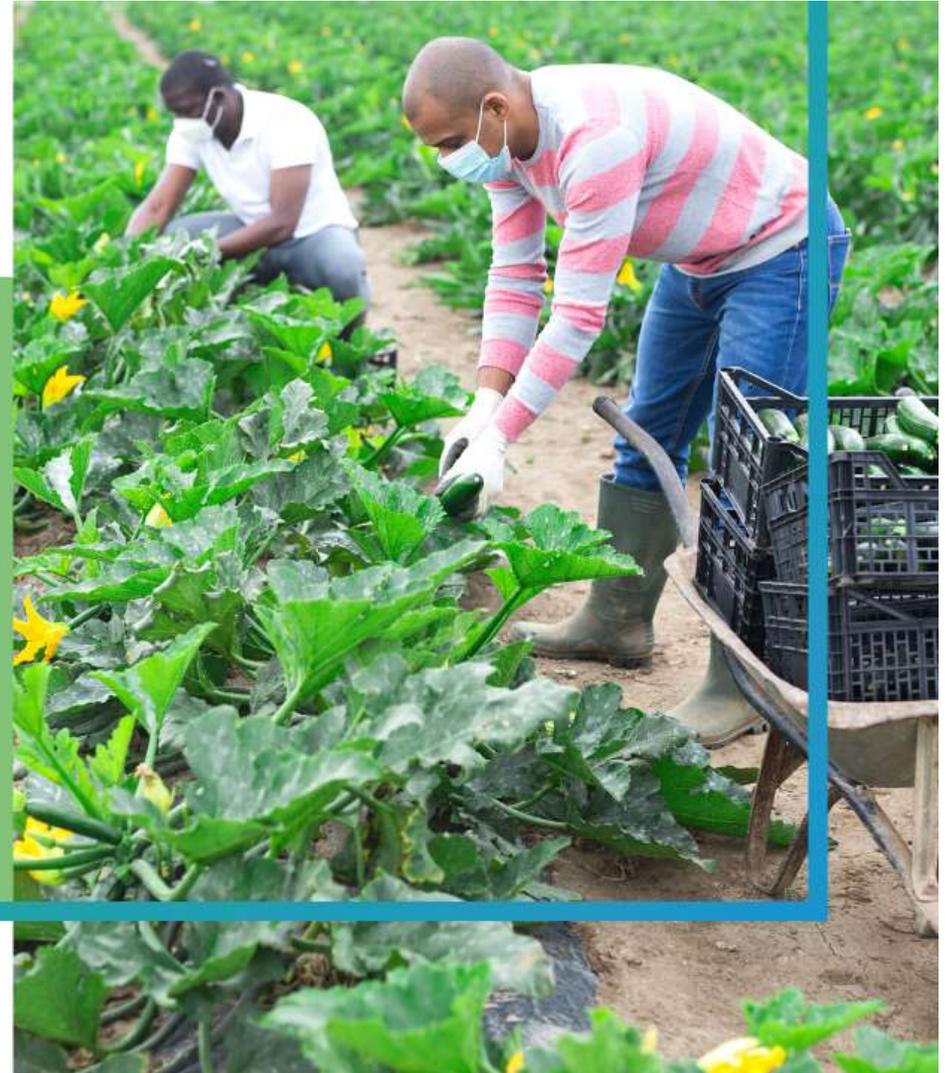




# Welcome

We will begin soon ...

Prevent & Control  
Outbreaks:  
**TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**



# Webinar speakers



Stefan  
Larrass  
Senior Policy  
Advisor

**Ontario Fruit &  
Vegetable  
Growers'  
Association**



Christina Taylor  
Director of  
Health Protection

**Huron Perth  
Public Health**



Jessica  
VanGeffen  
Public Health  
Inspector

**Huron Perth  
Public Health**



Dave Whitney  
Regional Program  
Coordinator for  
Industrial Health  
and Safety

**Ministry of  
Labour, Training  
& Skills  
Development**



Angela Willert  
Public Health  
Manager,  
Clinic Logistics  
& Vaccine  
Management

**Huron Perth  
Public Health**

Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**



# Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**

FREE WEBINAR

**JULY 23 | 1:00 PM**





This presentation was delivered July 23, 2021.

Information on this topic changes rapidly.

If you are viewing this recording later, please be advised that we cannot guarantee this information is still accurate and complete as of your date of viewing.

For clarification on any points:

**Huron Perth Public Health** | Online: [www.hp-ph.ca/TFW](http://www.hp-ph.ca/TFW) | Email: [EHRResponse@hp-ph.ca](mailto:EHRResponse@hp-ph.ca)

**Ministry of Labour** | Phone: 1-877-202-0008

**Ontario Fruit and Growers Association** | Email: [slarrass@ofvga.org](mailto:slarrass@ofvga.org)

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Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**

# WHAT WE'RE COVERING

- COVID19 – Overview
- Workplace Safety
- Vaccine Information
- Section 22 Order
- Responding to Symptoms:  
Preventing & Controlling Outbreaks
- Questions & Answers



Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**

# COVID19 It's not gone.

Huron Perth Public Health



Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**

# COVID Workplace Safety

Ministry of Labour  
Ontario Fruit & Vegetable  
Growers Association



Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**

Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

# Keeping Ontario Safe:

What you need to know about the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development and Preventing COVID-19 in your Workplace

Huron Perth Public Health – Info Session for Farm Operators

July 23, 2021

## **Today, we'll take a look at:**

- 1. Why MLTSD might visit you**
- 2. Overview of the responsibilities of the workplace parties**
- 3. COVID-19 in the workplace**
- 4. Resources**

## Note

This presentation is intended to be resource and does not replace the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) or its regulations and should not be used as or considered legal advice. Health and safety inspectors apply the law based on the facts in the workplace.

It is the responsibility of workplace parties to ensure compliance with the legislation. This document does not constitute legal advice.

July 14, 2021



## What is The Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA)?

- ❑ The OHSA came into force October 1, 1979
- ❑ The main purpose of the OHSA is to protect worker health and safety
- ❑ It applies to all workplaces in Ontario except federally regulated workplaces (e.g. banks, post offices, etc.) and work in the private home, carried out by an owner/occupant or servant of an owner/occupant

## Why might MLTSD come knocking?

Inspection	Investigation
A <b>Proactive</b> call to a workplace may include:	A <b>Reactive</b> call to a workplace may include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Initiatives/Campaigns</li><li>• Blitzes</li><li>• Known Industry Hazards</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Critical injury and non critical injury reports</li><li>• Complaints</li><li>• Work Refusals</li><li>• Occupational Illness</li><li>• Referral from another agency</li></ul>

## Powers of Inspectors

Under Section 54 of the OHSA, MLTSD health and safety inspectors have broad powers to:

- Enter any workplace without appointment and inspect for compliance with the OHSA and its regulations
- Handle or use any equipment/machinery and take away samples
- Look at documents and records and take photographs
- Interview workplace parties
- Issue orders (e.g., immediate or time-based compliance; stop-work) and use other enforcement tools (i.e., Part I tickets, Part III prosecution)

### OHSA: Penalties for Non-Compliance

- **Individual:** fine of up to \$100,000, up to one year imprisonment, or both
- **Corporation:** If guilty of an offence, liable for a fine of up to \$1,500,000



## Physical Inspection of the Workplace – COVID-19

MLTSD is currently using the existing general duties section 25(2)(h) of the [Occupational Health and Safety Act](#) (OHSA) to require employers to take every precaution reasonable in the circumstances for the protection of a worker from COVID19 in the workplace.

This includes a focus on:

- ✓ Masking and eye protection
- ✓ Engineering controls
- ✓ Physical distancing
- ✓ (a 2m separation) between workers
- ✓ Cleaning and Disinfection including WHMIS hazards.
- ✓ Worker/Supervisor OHS Awareness and Training O. Reg. 297/13.
- ✓ Screening to prevent workers who may have COVID-19 from coming to work
- ✓ Proper onsite hygiene

## Biosecurity

MLTSD understands the important role biosecurity plays in preventing the transfer of disease and pest infestation between farming operations. To minimize the possibility of spreading biological hazards during field visits, inspectors are required to follow biosecurity protocol as directed by the ministry's internal Policy and Procedures Manual.

Inspectors are also asked to observe and respect all biosecurity signage on farms. Regions are asked to ensure that inspectors have access to complete, updated Bio-Security kits.

## Employer responsibilities

Employers have obligations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) and its regulations to protect workers from hazards in the workplace, including infectious diseases.

### Key Employer Duties

- Take **every reasonable precaution** in the circumstances for the protection of a worker
- Provide, maintain, and ensure proper use of equipment**, materials, and protective devices
- Ensure **required measures and procedures** are carried out
- Provide **information, instruction and supervision** to workers
- Acquaint workers** and supervisors with workplace hazards

## Worker Rights

- ❑ **Right to know** about any hazards to which they may be exposed
  - Employers are legally required to provide information, instruction and supervision to all workers and supervisors about known health and safety hazards in the workplace.
- ❑ **Right to refuse** unsafe work
  - Employers are not allowed to fire, discipline or penalize a worker for following workplace health and safety laws or refusing unsafe work.
- ❑ **Right to participate** in identifying and resolving health and safety concerns, including issues related to COVID19, through membership on a joint health and safety committee (JHSC) or Health and Safety Representative (HSR).

## JHSCs and HSRs



A joint health and safety committee (JHSC) is required when there are **at least 20 regularly employed workers** on the following farming operations: 1. Mushroom 3. Dairy 5. Cattle  
2. Greenhouse 4. Hog 6. Poultry



Farming operations that **regularly employ more than 5 workers**, but are not one of the six specified commodity groups, are required to have a Health and Safety Representative (HSR).

Key functions & powers of JHSC and HSR under OHSA	JHSC	HSR
Inspect the workplace at least once per month	✓	✓
Identify workplace hazards and make recommendations to employer	✓	✓
Obtain information from employer regarding identification of hazards	✓	✓
Inspect workplace/investigate following critical injuries, fatalities, or work refusals	✓	✓
Opportunity to accompany MOL inspector during inspection of the workplace	✓	✓
Committee meets at least once every three months and keeps minutes	✓	×
Certified JHSC member may initiate bilateral or unilateral work stoppage, if they believe that “dangerous circumstances” exist	✓	×

**A period that exceeds three months is generally considered “regularly employed”.**

## Develop your COVID-19 workplace safety plan

This MLTSD guide is for employers. Whether you are currently operating or planning for your workers to return to work, the guide will help you develop a plan to work safely. It will help prepare you to put controls into place to make the workplace safer for everyone.

You can use the COVID-19 safety plan template to create your plan.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/develop-your-covid-19-workplace-safety-plan>

As quickly as possible upon arrival, workers should be instructed on the farm safety plan in a language they understand. Ex. Orientation training.

Check the [resources to prevent COVID-19 in the workplace](#) for sector-specific information and examples of controls that apply to your workplace specifically.

## What if a worker tests positive for COVID19?



Under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA), [subsection 52(2)], if an employer is advised that a worker has an occupational illness **due to an exposure at the workplace** or that a claim has been filed with the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), the employer is required to notify the ministry in writing within four days.

If you have questions or would like to report an occupational illness, please call:  
**Occupational Health and Safety Contact Centre**  
**1-877-202-0008**

You may also email your notice to [MLTSDoccillness.notices@ontario.ca](mailto:MLTSDoccillness.notices@ontario.ca)

## Temporary Foreign Agricultural Workers (TFAW) Initiative – 2021

In an effort to provide education, support and compliance assistance to employers in the farming and agricultural sector during the COVID19 pandemic, the ministry has been conducting proactive occupational health and safety visits to farms, greenhouses and other locations where agricultural workers work.



## MLTSD Health and Safety Activities on Farms

### Farming Sector Activities – January 1 to July 6, 2021

2021 Temporary Foreign Agricultural Worker Initiative			
Field visit count	458	<b>TYPES OF COVID-19 ORDERS</b>	
Workplaces visited	400	Physical distancing/masks	43
Orders issued	236	Screening measures	37
Tickets issued	9	Information and instruction	10
Total COVID-19 orders	115	Disinfect/cleaning	25
Initiative has resulted in 400 workplaces visited		19,562 workers impacted	

### Farming and Agricultural Services Sector Data Trends

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 YTD
Field Visits	728	797	748	1326	811
Workplaces Visited	392	421	358	830	528
Orders Issued	1096	1335	998	811	529
Stop Work Orders	34	49	37	25	22
Events with Field Visit	232	250	286	353	232

## We are here to help...

### **Occupational Health and Safety Contact Centre**

Call any time to report critical injuries, fatalities or work refusals.  
Call 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday, for general inquiries.

**Toll-free: 1-877-202-0008**

Once a telephone agent has been reached, callers can ask for service in other languages.

Questions can also be e-mailed to [webohs@ontario.ca](mailto:webohs@ontario.ca). Responses will be made within 5 business days.

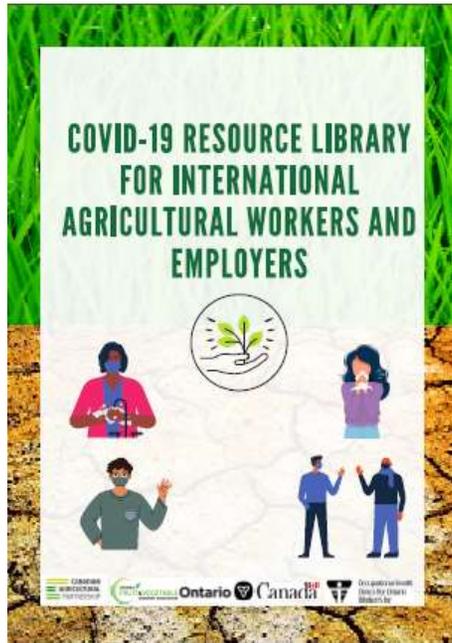
## Printable posters

- ❖ Surgical Mask vs. N95 Respirator:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/pdfs/UnderstandDifferenceInfographic-508.pdf>
- ❖ How to Self-Isolate: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/factsheet-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate.pdf?la=en>
- ❖ How to Self-Monitor: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/factsheet-covid-19-self-monitor.pdf?la=en>
- ❖ Cleaning and Disinfection for Public Settings:  
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/factsheet-covid-19-environmental-cleaning.pdf?la=en>
- ❖ Public Health Ontario's How to Handwash Poster:  
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/jcyh-handwash.pdf?la=en>
- ❖ Public Health Ontario Multilingual "How To" Posters:  
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/novel-coronavirus/public-resources?tab=0>

## Online Resources

- Agriculture health and safety during COVID-19
  - **English:** <https://www.ontario.ca/page/agriculture-health-and-safety-during-covid-19>
  - **Spanish:** <https://files.ontario.ca/mltsd-agriculture-health-and-safety-covid-19-spanish-2020-06-18.pdf>
  - **Thai:** <https://files.ontario.ca/mltsd-agriculture-health-and-safety-covid-19-thai-2020-12-17.pdf.pdf>
- Farming operations hiring contract workers
  - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/farming-operations-hiring-contract-workers>
- Working with farm operators to stop the spread of COVID-19 on farms
  - [https://www.ontario.ca/page/working-farm-operators-stop-spread-covid-19-farms?\\_ga=2.146564276.146691713.1609952881-311767730.1586279845](https://www.ontario.ca/page/working-farm-operators-stop-spread-covid-19-farms?_ga=2.146564276.146691713.1609952881-311767730.1586279845)
- WSIB Foreign Agriculture Workers Program
  - <https://www.wsib.ca/en/foreign-agricultural-workers-program>
- Ministry of Health Guidance for Congregate Living
  - [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019\\_congregate\\_living\\_guidance.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_congregate_living_guidance.pdf)
- Ministry of Health COVID-19 Guidance: On-Farm Outbreak Management
  - [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/COVID-19\\_Farm\\_Outbreak\\_guidance.pdf](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/COVID-19_Farm_Outbreak_guidance.pdf)

## COVID-19 Agricultural Resource Library



### **This new library includes:**

An extensive list of resources, guidelines, posters, videos, etc. to help support farm employers and international farm workers in a variety of languages

[https://www.ofvga.org/uploads/resources/files/COVID-19%20Resource%20Library%20for%20Agriculture%20Workers\\_May%2011.pdf](https://www.ofvga.org/uploads/resources/files/COVID-19%20Resource%20Library%20for%20Agriculture%20Workers_May%2011.pdf)

# Questions?



# Supports for farms working on COVID-19 workplace safety



**WSPS Education, Tools and Consulting Services to assist with implementing COVID-19 health and safety protocols**  
<http://lp.wspss.ca/covid-19-and-farm-workers.html>.

**Value of up to \$2,000 in free consultation support (funded by OMAFRA)**



# Supports continued

The Health and Safety Excellence program can help



36 health and safety topics to help build a **comprehensive health and safety program**



**Recognition** to show employees, customers, and investors **commitment to health and safety**



**Pandemic readiness materials**, to help businesses meet the challenges of operating safely during a pandemic



**Health and safety roadmap** for pandemic readiness and recovery to address **immediate priorities**, safely resume operations and ensure a sustainable and resilient businesses



**Rebates on premiums** and money saved by improving safety experience



**Flexible program options** to make it easy to join. **Support and guidance** from an approved provider

# WSIB Health and Safety Excellence Program

Minimum \$1,000 in rebates per completed action (up to \$5,000 for 5 actions maximum)

1



Dedicated consultant to help you calculate your potential rebate or learn more about the program and register:

[healthandsafetyexcellence@wsib.on.ca](mailto:healthandsafetyexcellence@wsib.on.ca)

2



Select and register with an approved provider and access the online platform:

[Provider profiles](#)

3

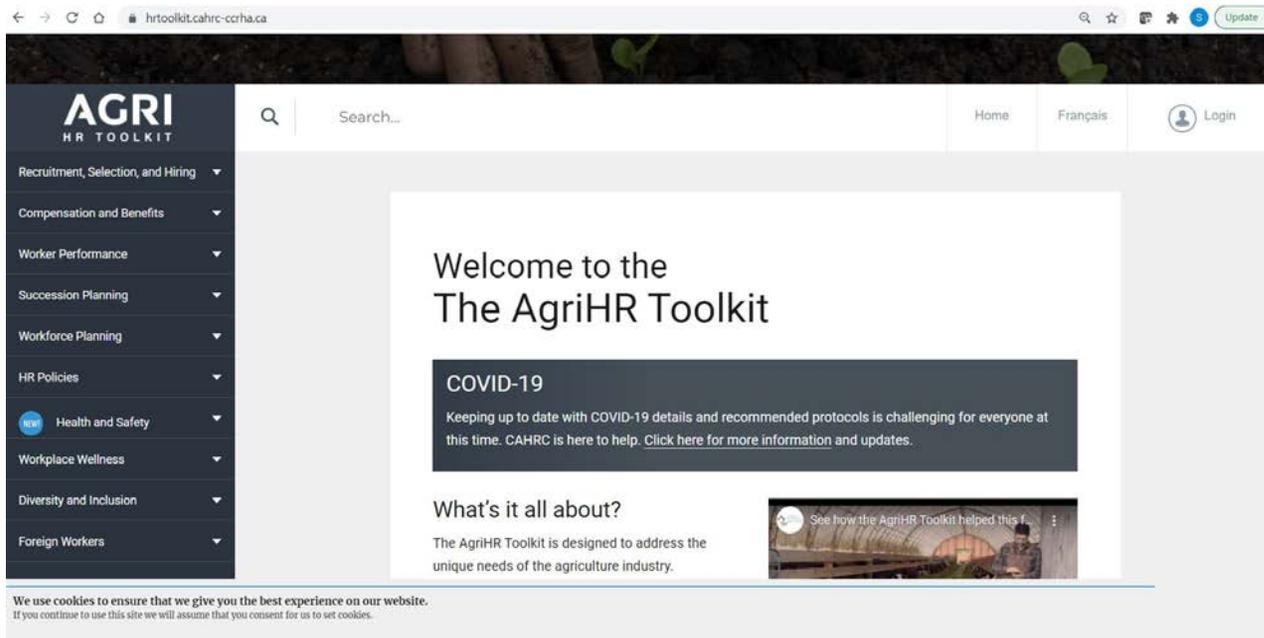


Receive a member badge for joining the program and start the Excellence health and safety journey

# Supports continued

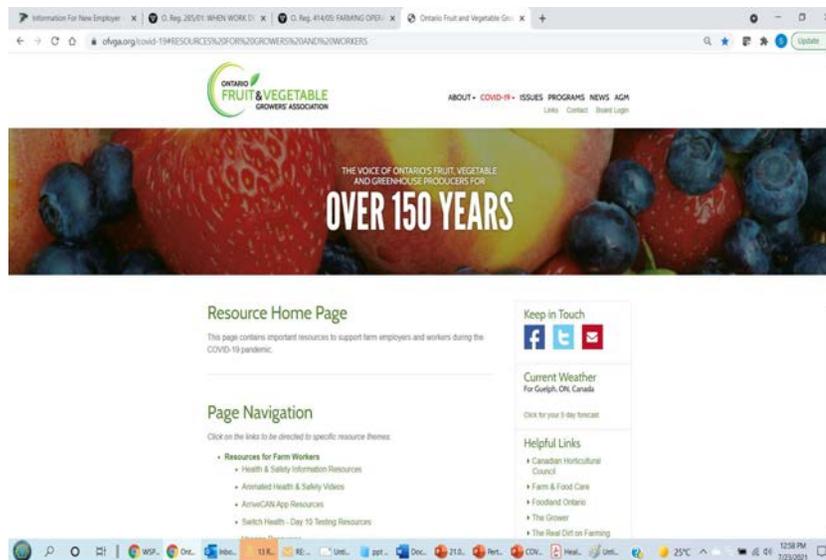
HR policies templates: <https://hrtoolkit.cahrc-ccrha.ca/>

Members of OFA or FARMS can contact these offices for free access code



The screenshot shows the homepage of the AgriHR Toolkit website. The browser address bar displays "hrtoolkit.cahrc-ccrha.ca". The website features a dark blue header with the "AGRI HR TOOLKIT" logo on the left. A search bar is located in the top right of the header, along with links for "Home", "Français", and "Login". A vertical navigation menu on the left lists various HR topics: Recruitment, Selection, and Hiring; Compensation and Benefits; Worker Performance; Succession Planning; Workforce Planning; HR Policies; Health and Safety (highlighted with a blue circle and "NEW" text); Workplace Wellness; Diversity and inclusion; and Foreign Workers. The main content area has a white background with a dark blue banner that reads "Welcome to the The AgriHR Toolkit". Below this banner is a dark grey box with the heading "COVID-19" and the text: "Keeping up to date with COVID-19 details and recommended protocols is challenging for everyone at this time. CAHRC is here to help. [Click here for more information and updates.](#)". Underneath is a section titled "What's it all about?" with the text: "The AgriHR Toolkit is designed to address the unique needs of the agriculture industry." To the right of this text is a small video player with the caption "See how the AgriHR Toolkit helped this f...". At the bottom of the page, a cookie consent banner states: "We use cookies to ensure that we give you the best experience on our website. If you continue to use this site we will assume that you consent for us to set cookies."

# Resources to empower workers with COVID instructions (OFVGA)



Appearance of the Screening App



Figure: Mobile phone access to screening questions for employees and visitors

<https://www.ofvga.org/covid-19/RESOURCES%20FOR%20GROWERS%20AND%20WORKERS>

# Testing pre-departure from Pearson Airport

## **COVID-19 PCR Test**

- CA\$158.20; 24-36 hours to get results

## **COVID-19 PCR Test (Expedited) - 6 hour Results**

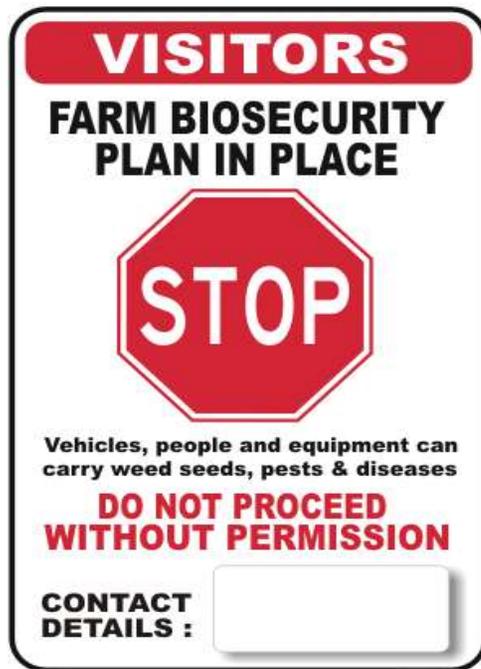
- CA\$282.50; 6 hours to get results. This cost appears very prohibitive.

## **COVID-19 Antigen Test**

- CA\$67.80; antigen Tests deliver 15 minute results which can be utilized for travel to USA, U.K., Germany, Jamaica, and more.

<https://www.torontopearson.com/en/healthy-airport/covid-19-testing-at-toronto-pearson/departing-passengers>

# Biosecurity signage



Contact your local OFA Member Services Representative to see if there is available signage

**Zone 7 – Margaret Vincent – Huron, Perth**  
Phone: 519-482-9642  
Toll free: 1-800-511-1135  
[margaret.vincent@ofa.on.ca](mailto:margaret.vincent@ofa.on.ca)

# Vaccine Information

Huron Perth Public Health  
Ontario Fruit & Vegetable  
Growers Association



Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**



# Prevent & Control Outbreaks: TFWs, Farms & COVID19 Vaccination Support

**Angela Willert, MA**  
**HPPH Public Health Manager**  
**Clinic Logistics & Vaccine Management**

**July 23, 2021**

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## COVID-19 Vaccine: What is offered

### HPPH administers mRNA vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna)

At this time, due to supply, most clinics administer Pfizer-BioNTech

#### Helpful Links:

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Information Sheet](#) (Ministry of Health)
- [What you need to know about your COVID-19 vaccine appointment](#) (Ministry of Health)

# COVID-19 Vaccine: **Where to access vaccine**

- Mass Vaccination Clinics

[Book online](#)

Call: 1-833-753-2098

Email: [covidscheduling@hpph.ca](mailto:covidscheduling@hpph.ca)

- Pharmacy

## Helpful Links:

- [COVID-19 Vaccine: Booking Appointments](#) (HPPH)
- [COVID-19 Pharmacy Vaccine Locations](#) (Ontario)

## COVID-19 Vaccine: Additional considerations for booking into mass vaccination clinics

- HPPH Booking staff can book groups of TFW into clinics
- On demand video translation available (you can notify us through booking that translation support is needed)
- OHIP number not required
- Now offering several walk-in clinics

### Helpful Links:

- [Registering a vaccine received outside of Canada or Ontario](#) (HPPH)

# Vaccine - information resources for workers and employers

- ▶ <https://www.ofvga.org/covid-19-worker-resources#COVID-19%20Vaccine%20Resources>
- ▶ Adaptation of Ministry of Health guidance on 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccination under development (target next week for publication)

The screenshot shows a YouTube video player. The video title is "What you need to know about the COVID-19 vaccines". The video content includes the text: "International agricultural workers will be offered a COVID-19 vaccine soon. This fact sheet provides information about the vaccines, so you can make an informed choice. No one can force you to get a COVID-19 vaccine. Medical doctors have made sure the following information is correct". Below the text is an illustration of a syringe and a bandage, and a row of five diverse people wearing face masks. The video player shows a progress bar at 0:00 / 5:46. The video is from the channel "OFVGA - Farm and Worker Resources" and has 310 views as of 31 Mar 2021.

## La Vacuna Contra el COVID-19: Mitos y Hechos



La vacunación es una de las mejores maneras de prevenir la propagación y reducir el impacto causado por virus como el del COVID-19. En Canadá, las vacunas se analizan antes de su uso, para asegurarse que sean seguras y efectivas

Es posible que hayas escuchado o leído bastante información confusa sobre la vacuna, por lo que es muy importante que obtengas información de fuentes confiables

La información en este folleto informativo proviene de la Agencia de Salud Pública de Canadá, la Salud Pública de Ontario, y la Organización Mundial de la Salud



**Mito:** La vacuna contra el COVID-19 no es segura porque fue producida de manera rápida

**Hecho:** El virus de COVID-19 no es un virus realmente nuevo, virus similares tales como SRAS y MERS CoV han sido bien estudiados. La vacuna se sometió a los mismos requerimientos de aprobación como otras vacunas usadas en el mundo, incluyendo la vacuna de prueba usada en voluntarios de diferentes procedencias y razas. La producción de la vacuna contra el COVID-19 fue financiada por muchos países y ha sido aprobada por expertos en la salud a nivel mundial

**Mito:** La vacuna contra el COVID-19 cambiara mi ADN

**Hecho:** Algunas vacunas contra el COVID-19 son hechas de ARNm el cual es material genético. EL ARNm en estas vacunas nunca entra en la parte del núcleo de la célula, que es donde se encuentra nuestro ADN. Entonces, el ARNm en estas vacunas no afectara tu ADN.



# SECTION 22 ORDER

## What's required of farms.

Huron Perth Public Health



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Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**

# SECTION 22 ORDER



Date: March 23, 2021

## CLASS ORDER OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Made pursuant to Section 22 [S.O.1] of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. H.7, as amended*

This order replaces the Class Order issued on June 30, 2020 to all farm owners, farm operators and temporary help agencies who employ temporary foreign workers (TFW) on agricultural farms in Huron and Perth counties.

**To: All owners and operators of agricultural farms in Huron and Perth counties, owners and operators of agri-food businesses outside Huron and Perth counties and temporary help agencies who**

1. Operate any model of housing accommodations (for domestic and/or temporary foreign workers) in Huron-Perth AND/OR
2. Employ temporary foreign workers in any capacity or participate in the federal temporary foreign worker program in Huron-Perth.

Notwithstanding what is listed in this Order, employers must comply with all relevant and applicable provincial legislation, requirements and guidance from, but not limited to, the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development (MLTSD), Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) and Provincial government to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 in agricultural settings.

I, Dr. Miriam Klassen, Medical Officer of Health, for Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH), **ORDER YOU TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS**, effective 12:01 a.m. on March 24, 2021:

**A. DEVELOP AND SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING PLANS TO HPPH NO LESS THAN FOUR WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF TFW ARRIVAL:**

### 1. COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan

The plan must include, but is not limited to, the items noted below as well as those outlined within the following resource: [Develop your COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan](#). You must provide a description of how the following will be addressed and implemented:

- daily active screening of all workers at the beginning of the day/shift, including any other persons on the farm
- regular wellness checks of workers
- cohorting of workers to individual worksites to the greatest extent possible (in instances where multiple locations are operated by one employer) and separating temporary help agency workers (if utilized) from other existing cohorts of workers on the farm

**To: All owners and operators of agricultural farms in Huron and Perth counties, owners and operators of agri-food businesses outside Huron and Perth counties and temporary help agencies who**

1. Operate any model of housing accommodations (for domestic and/or temporary foreign workers) in Huron-Perth

AND/OR

2. Employ temporary foreign workers in any capacity or participate in the federal temporary foreign worker program in Huron-Perth.

Sections of the order:

A. Develop and submit the following plans to HPPH no less than four weeks in advance of TFW Arrival:

- 1) COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan
- 2) Arrival/Quarantine Plan

B. Follow all Required Public Health Measures During 14 day Quarantine and/or isolation of TFWs:

C. Follow all Public Health Measures. At all times you must:

Huron Perth Public Health  
1-888-211-2131  
hpph@hpph.ca  
www.hpph.ca

Huron Office  
77720 London Rd., RR #5  
Clinton, Ontario  
N0M 1L0

Perth Office  
633 West Gate St.  
Stratford, Ontario  
N5A 1L4

Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**

# SECTION 22 ORDER up-dates are coming

- Section A – cohorting of workers to individual worksites to the greatest extent possible (in instances where multiple locations are operated by one employer) and separating **contract and/or** temporary help agency workers (if utilized) from other existing cohorts of workers on the farm
- Section C - Notify HPPH of symptomatic workers or workers tested for COVID-19. Note: Employers are not required to inform HPPH of day 8 testing required due to federal quarantine requirements.
- Notify HPPH of any positive COVID-19 test result.
- Reasons For this Order – revised and expanded



Date: March 23, 2021

## CLASS ORDER OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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Notwithstanding what is listed in this Order, employers must comply with all relevant and applicable provincial legislation, requirements and guidance from, but not limited to, the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development (MLTSD), Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) and Provincial government to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 in agricultural settings.

I, Dr. Miriam Klassen, Medical Officer of Health, for Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH), ORDER YOU TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS, effective 12:01 a.m. on March 24, 2021:

A. DEVELOP AND SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING PLANS TO HPPH NO LESS THAN FOUR WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF TFW ARRIVAL:

### 1. COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan

The plan must include, but is not limited to, the items noted below as well as those outlined within the following resource: [Develop your COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan](#). You must provide a description of how the following will be addressed and implemented:

- daily active screening of all workers at the beginning of the day/shift, including any other persons on the farm
- regular wellness checks of workers
- cohorting of workers to individual worksites to the greatest extent possible (in instances where multiple locations are operated by one employer) and separating temporary help agency workers (if utilized) from other existing cohorts of workers on the farm

Huron Perth Public Health  
1-800-221-2133  
hpph@hpph.ca  
www.hpph.ca

Huron Office  
777251 London Rd., RR #5  
Clinton, Ontario  
N0M 1L0

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623 West Gore St.  
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Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**

# Responding to Symptoms Preventing an Outbreak

+ what to expect in a  
Farm Outbreak  
Huron Perth Public Health



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Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**

# Responding to Symptoms

- Screening and early identification of ill workers is key for limiting spread of COVID-19 within the workplace
- Isolate and test
- Notify HPPH of symptomatic workers or workers tested for COVID-19
- Notify HPPH by calling EH Response 1-844-935-1327 ex 3670 Perth or 2670 Huron
- Seek medical attention



# Farm Outbreak – What to Expect

## Outbreak definition:

- One confirmed case among a resident of a congregate living setting associated with a farm;

OR

- Two confirmed cases in workers or any other person working on or visiting a farm (e.g., an employer) with an epidemiological link, within a 14-day period, where at least one case could have reasonably\* acquired their infection on the farm.

\*Reasonably acquired infection on the farm include:

- No obvious source of infection outside the farm or congregate living setting, OR
- Known exposure on the farm or congregate living setting.



# Farm Outbreak – What to Expect

## What is need in an outbreak:

- Isolation spaces
- Cohorting
- Outbreak Management Team

## Steps for an outbreak:

- Determine Isolation/quarantine location of workers and if cohorting is possible
- Contact identification, tracing and management
- Daily health check-ins COVID cases and high risk contacts (HRC)
- Ensure access to services and supports
- Testing Plan



# Farm Outbreak – What to Expect

The outbreak/suspect outbreak may be declared over after the latest of:

- 14 days have passed with no evidence of ongoing transmission that could reasonably be related to exposures in the workplace;

or

- 14 days after the date when outbreak measures were implemented.



# Preventing an Outbreak

- Educate our workers
- Screening
- Cohorting
- Ensure a variety of control measures are implemented on your farm and in congregate living settings to reduce the potential exposure to COVID-19, such as:
  - physical distancing and barriers
  - increased ventilation
  - frequent cleaning and disinfecting of high touch surfaces
  - source control masking
  - provision of personal protective equipment
  - Limiting work to one location at all times



Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**

# Questions from you.

Type your questions  
into the chatbox.



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Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**

# COVID19 It's not gone.

Huron Perth Public Health



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Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**

**THANK YOU**



**Contact Us:**

[EHResponse@hpph.ca](mailto:EHResponse@hpph.ca)

[hpph.ca/tfw](http://hpph.ca/tfw)

**1-888-221-2133 x2670 or x3670 (voicemails only)**

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This presentation was delivered July 23, 2021.

Information on this topic changes rapidly.

If you are viewing this recording later, please be advised that we cannot guarantee this information is still accurate and complete as of your date of viewing.

For clarification on any points:

**Huron Perth Public Health** | Online: [www.hp-ph.ca/TFW](http://www.hp-ph.ca/TFW) | Email: [EHRResponse@hp-ph.ca](mailto:EHRResponse@hp-ph.ca)

**Ministry of Labour** | Phone: 1-877-202-0008

**Ontario Fruit and Growers Association** | Email: [slarrass@ofvga.org](mailto:slarrass@ofvga.org)

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Prevent & Control Outbreaks: **TFWs, Farms & COVID-19**