



## **NOTICE TO INDUSTRY**

**Notice Number:** NTI 12 / 2020

**Date issued:** March 27, 2020

**District:** All

**Subject: APA Mitigation Measures to Protect Stakeholders for COVID-19 As a follow up to NTI 10 /2020**

In NTI#10/2020 the Atlantic Pilotage Authority requested that all Vessels entering Atlantic Canadian Waters implement various sanitation and protection procedures to ensure COVID-19 risks to Pilots boarding would be mitigated. These measures have been widely implemented by all and the APA would like to thank all our stakeholders for their effort and cooperation to ensure continuity in the marine industry.

To ensure this continuity, APA has also implemented many internal measures to ensure that risks to the crew onboard stakeholder vessels as well for our Pilots to support the essential shipping of goods and services would be able to continue uninterrupted. Pilotage has been deemed an essential service along with the rest of the marine trades we all must take measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the industry and ensure business continuity.

To date the Authority has enacted the following:

### **Preventative Measures:**

- All Pilots and crews that have travelled in the last 14 days (unless directly related to pilotage) are required to self isolate prior to re-entering the workforce.
- Pilots and Crew on shift continue to self monitor and are to report any symptoms to the Authority prior to being assigned to a vessel
- Where taxi services are utilized, the Authority is ensuring they follow proper sanitation and PPE protocol and, where possible, have designated drivers or vehicles for their services.
- Continued collaboration with stakeholders in all of our ports to ensure security protocols are conducive to mitigating health risks.
- All APA employees have been asked to follow Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) advice ensuring to wash their hands, avoid touching their face, and to maintain social distance.

### **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):**

- PPE (gloves, safety glasses and masks) and sanitizer has been issued to all of our Pilot Boats to ensure it is readily accessible as required.
- The APA continues to source PPE through our federal partners to ensure an adequate supply is available.
- The Authority is in close contact with PHAC to ensure our Pilots and Crews have the correct PPE, know when the correct time is to don it and what to do with it afterwards.



- As the wearing of masks for persons not showing symptoms is not recommended by PHAC, APA personnel are not required to wear a mask by the Authority. Any symptomatic personnel will not be permitted at the workplace.
- Employees are following each stakeholders Policies and Procedures for COVID-19 when onboard the various vessels and entering any terminals for an assignment.

#### **Pilot Boats:**

- APA boat crews are thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting the Pilot Boat surfaces after each assignment.
- We have reduced the number of Pilots carried on our boats to ensure less chance of exposure and extra separation for all onboard.
- If required in a busy port, a second boat will be dispatched to ensure delays due to these measures are reduced and we greatly appreciate the support and understanding of industry in this endeavour.
- We have reduced extra personnel attending the Pilot Boats to essential maintenance contractors only and these are screened to ensure they do not pose an additional risk.

#### **Offices:**

- APA administration staff is now working from home but are readily connected and available to react to any operational requirements.
- APA Dispatch continues to work from our office with reduced exposure due to the above measure.

#### **Onboard Stakeholder Vessels/at Terminals:**

- Pilots have been instructed to follow vessel specified protocols while onboard. This includes social distancing, reduced interaction with non-essential crew members and wearing requested PPE. Please note that these protocols differ from vessel to vessel and we encourage stakeholders to provide the authority any additional precautions onboard when ordering a Pilot.
- APA Pilots have been instructed on PPE usage as per PHAC recommendations. If the requirements of the vessels differ from these recommendations, we will follow the measures as practicable.
- Please keep in mind that in order to conduct the vessels safely it is essential that Pilots have access to various navigational equipment on the bridge. As it is in many ships most of the equipment such as RADAR, ECDIS consoles, ROT indicators etc. are redundant. Best practice would be that the Pilot use one and the Vessel Crew uses the other to avoid cross contamination as well to better monitor the vessels position through independent means which would then be able to be sanitized after the Pilot has disembarked.

Until Health Canada declares this matter to no longer be an imminent concern, this protocol will remain in place and we ask our stakeholders for cooperation to ensure the health and safety of our personnel and the greater community. A notice will be posted when the temporary protocol is no longer required.



**Atlantic  
Pilotage  
Authority**

TD CENTRE, SUITE 1801  
1791 BARRINGTON STREET  
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA  
B3J 3K9  
TEL: 902-426-2550  
FAX: 902-426-4004

**Administration  
de pilotage  
de l'Atlantique**

CENTRE TD, PIÈCE 1801  
1791, RUE BARRINGTON  
HALIFAX, N.É.  
B3J 3K9  
www.atlanticpilotage.com



 Atlantic Pilotage Authority Administration de Pilotage de l'Atlantique

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Thank you for your assistance and understanding. If there are any questions or concerns with the contents of this Notice, please contact the Operations Department of the APA at [operations@atlanticpilotage.com](mailto:operations@atlanticpilotage.com).