
NOTICE TO INDUSTRY

Notice Number: NTI 14
Date issued: March 30, 2022
District: All

Subject: Sanitation and Protection Procedures for COVID-19

This notice is an update to NTI 14 issued June 3rd, 2021

As the Public Health mandatory restrictions are being lifted in our region, their recommendations are to continue to adhere to the mitigations that have served us well over the course of the pandemic. The COVID-19 virus is still present in our region and remains a serious health concern.

All vessels requiring a pilot are requested by the Authority to implement the following sanitation and protection procedures to help protect the health and safety of all essential workers in the marine industry.

This protocol is to be aligned with [Transport Canada Marine Security Operations – Special Marine Security Notification No: #2020-007](#)

Masters and/or agents are to confirm the below questions to APA Dispatch (dispatch@atlanticpilotage.com) **within 12 hours** of pilot arrival on board:

1. Are any crew members onboard symptomatic of COVID-19 and/or required to isolate? **Yes or No**
2. Have any crew members tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 7 days? **Yes or No**
3. Confirm the below sanitation and protection measures are in place. **Yes or No**

The above confirmation ensures APA Pilots are advised of the potential hazard in a timely manner and any additional precautions can be taken prior to boarding the vessel.

Sanitation Procedures

- Ensure all spaces the pilot will encounter are clean and hygienic.
- Ensure surfaces are wiped with disinfectant and sanitized prior to the Pilot boarding. Surfaces included but not limited to:
 - i) hallways,
 - ii) hand rails
 - iii) elevators
 - iv) bridge area of and any equipment the pilot may use such as radios, keyboards, and RADARs.
- See [PHAC guidance](#) on cleaning and disinfecting public spaces for more information.
- Whenever possible, navigation equipment used by the pilot is not to be shared with members of the bridge team.

Protection Procedures

- APA requests that all crew who are in direct contact with the pilot maintain the protocols of [Federal](#) and Provincial Public Health recommendations which includes the use of masks.
- If crew do not don a mask and physical distancing cannot be maintained, pilot may refuse the assignment.
- APA pilots are required to wear a mask while on board all vessels.
- Promote regular and thorough hand washing by crew members prior to a pilot boarding.
- Ensure that pilots have access to places where they can wash their hands with soap and water.
- Hand sanitizer is to be made available to the pilot in prominent places throughout the vessel.
- Whenever possible maintain a distance of at least 2 meters between the pilot and crew members to limit the transmission of the virus.
- While the pilot is on the bridge, crew members are to be kept to a minimum manning level.
- Request bridge watch change not be conducted while pilot is on board whenever possible.
- Any crew member with COVID like symptoms is not to be in the presence of the pilot, should be confirmed to be *Self-Isolating* and be reported to the local Public Health Authority. See link to Public Health Canada [COVID Symptoms](#).
- All above measures should remain in place, regardless of the vaccination status of the vessel crew or pilot until further notice.

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 your 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.

Additional Information

Transport Canada Marine Security:

<https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesecurity/operations-bulletins-menu-69.htm>

Government of Canada Public Health:

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

World Health Organization:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

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.