The Ontario Asphalt Pavement Council (OAPC - a council of the Ontario Road Builders’ Association (ORBA)) recognizes the impact the COVID-19 pandemic may be having on the industry, and in the lives of its workforce and families, and the general public. In regard to the production, delivery and placement of asphalt concrete, health and safety continue to be a first priority during these challenging times. We ask that all members of the asphalt concrete/paving industry consider the following safety reminders and recommendations compiled from industry submissions and resources to prevent or minimize the chance of contracting or transmitting COVID-19:

**DEVELOPING PROTOCOLS**

Ensure all in-house measures developed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are done in compliance with requirements under the Occupational Health and Safety Act and associated regulations and public health directives issued by the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

**UNDERSTANDING RESPONSIBILITIES**

Everyone has a role to play and this begins with understanding and adhering to general social distancing and specific Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) recommendations.

### WHAT TO KNOW & WHAT TO DO

**How the Coronavirus is COMMONLY SPREAD**

- **THE AIR** by coughing and sneezing
- **CLOSE PERSONAL CONTACT** such as touching or shaking hands
- **TOUCHING AN OBJECT OR SURFACE WITH THE VIRUS ON IT** then touching your mouth, nose or eyes before washing your hands

**THE AIR** by coughing and sneezing

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**TOUCHING AN OBJECT OR SURFACE WITH THE VIRUS ON IT** then touching your mouth, nose or eyes before washing your hands

**REDUCING RISK:**

- **FREQUENTLY WASH YOUR HANDS** with soap under warm water
- **USE ALCOHOL-BASED SANITIZERS** if handwashing is not available
- **AVOID CONTACT** with people displaying symptoms of colds or the flu
- **COVER YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE** when you sneeze or cough
- **ASSISTING IN THE PURCHASE OR PROVIDING** the correct hand sanitizer for your facility
- **PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT (PPE)** such as gowns, masks, eye protection, gloves and shoe covers
- **DISPOSABLE CLEANING PRODUCTS AND MATERIALS**

**REDUCING RISK:**

- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. When soap and running water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand rub with at least 60% alcohol;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands;
- Follow appropriate respiratory etiquette, which includes covering for coughs and sneezes;
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- Practice social distancing by keeping at a minimum 6 feet from other individuals;
- Do not share PPE;
- Sanitize reusable PPE per manufacturer’s recommendation prior to each use; and
- Segregate delivery personnel from plant personnel;
- Wear a mask or face covering like a bandana or scarf, especially when working in close quarters.
- Minimize or eliminate face-to-face training and meetings;
- Minimize or eliminate visitation with non-essential individuals; and
- Minimize or eliminate employee ride-sharing. If necessary, ensure no more than two individuals per vehicle. Ensure adequate ventilation, preferably fresh air, during vehicular transportation of employees.
• **TOOLS, SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT**
  - Minimize or eliminate sharing of hand tools;
  - Use disposable hand towels;
  - Clean/disinfect potentially touchable surfaces on equipment, trucks, pickups etc., before and after shifts by the operators;
  - Disinfect reusable supplies before and after use;
  - Attempt to use/drive the same truck, piece of equipment, or tool; ensure it is disinfected after use;
  - Clean surfaces of construction equipment (pavers, end loader, rollers, cranes, etc.) and service/fleet vehicles including steering wheel, gear shift, instrument panels, etc. at the beginning and end of shifts. Use aerosol sanitizers inside closed cabs.

• **DOCUMENTATION / WEIGH TICKETS**
  - Minimize or eliminate sharing of pens;
  - Minimize or eliminate transfer of paper tickets or cash. Be careful of using electronic payment tools and ensure the surface is clean or disinfected;
  - Utilize electronic-ticketing if possible;
  - Where allowed, submit required documentation (inspections, certifications, invoices, prevailing wage reports, etc.) electronically;
  - Request third-party haulers to remain in their vehicles, if possible;
  - Use a clear plastic sleeve to receive paper material tickets and attach plastic sleeve to paver after each receipt;
  - For documents requiring paper copies or wet signatures, utilize drop boxes or other non-contact means to transfer paperwork between Contractor and Owner.

• **HAZARD MITIGATION STRATEGIES**
  - Ensure daily that employees are not symptomatic or have tested positive for COVID-19 (This needs to be conducted by an authorized representative);
  - Develop a company policy for requiring employees to stay home or self-quarantine;
  - Consider developing an Infectious Disease Preparedness and Response Plan.

• **TRACKING AND MONITORING WORKFORCE**
  - Place emphasis on tracking and monitoring activities of the workforce where possible. Such practices ensure, all that have been exposed are notified and that affected areas of the jobsite are disinfected.

• **PROTOCOL FOR SAMPLING AND TESTING ASPHALT**
  - During on-site sampling, interactions with crew members and customer may require using a mask as part of mandatory PPE.
  - Where required, samples should be bagged and tagged with the supervising owner representative watching from a distance. Bagged/tagged samples should be placed in the vehicle-trunk of the owner representative, who is responsible for taking the samples to the lab.

• **COMMUNICATION**
  - Establish and ensure there is an appropriate plan and/or reporting protocol that outlines key contacts and backups, the chain of communications, and the processes in-place to communicate important updates.
• INFORMATION RESOURCES:

- Online COVID-19 Self-assessment Tool: https://ca.thrive.health/covid19/en
- Occupational Health & Safety Act: https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90o01