

Operations Bulletin # 4

Wednesday April 22, 2020

Subject: COVID 19 Safety Information and Measures

CONTRACTORS

The City of Winnipeg and Winnipeg Transit Plus is monitoring the ever-evolving situation regarding COVID-19 and the risk to public health. The health and safety of Transit Plus drivers and passengers is of the highest priority, and as such we are providing you with the information and recommendations listed below from public health officials which may be relevant to the performance of your services. As you know, the City has issued the attached Operations Bulletins respecting your services, and these will continue to apply. At this point, the City is not issuing additional orders with respect to your contract, but orders requiring the use of specific Personal Protective Equipment will likely follow.

1. Social distancing and hygiene

As outlined in Operations Bulletin #2, the government of Manitoba and the Federal government have advised that the best way to protect yourself and our community from COVID 19 is to make sure that you wash your hands thoroughly, or use an alcohol based hand sanitizer frequently. Cough or sneeze into your sleeve. Increase the physical space between people, social distancing works by limiting the number of people that you and your family come into prolonged close contact with. Resources on these recommendations are provided below:

- Government of Manitoba: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/prepareandprevent/index.html>
- Federal Government:
<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/guidance-documents.html>

2. Personal Protective Equipment

In accordance with recommendations by Public Health Officials, the use of non-medical masks, gloves, gowns, and eye protection by Transit Plus drivers may be advisable. Resources on relevant recommendations are provided below:

- Transport Canada:
<https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/motorvehiclesafety/considerations-relating-use-face-coverings-commercial-vehicle-drivers-motor-carrier-intercommunity-bus-passengers.html>
- CDC:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>
- WHO:
https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/331498/WHO-2019-nCoV-IPCPPE_use-2020.2-eng.pdf

3. Disinfecting high traffic areas

In accordance with Operations Bulletin #2, you are required to continue to regularly clean high touch points and objects or things that are touched frequently, such as doorknobs, handles and railings and especially high touch points in your vehicle. For additional information on how to clean your vehicle during the pandemic please visit:

- Transport Canada:
<https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/motorvehiclesafety/federal-safety-guidance-protect-drivers-limit-spread-covid-19-commercial-vehicle-operations.html>

4. Self-screening of drivers

Drivers must self-screen before each shift. If they have a cold, or flu-like symptoms, such as a cough, fever, runny nose, sore throat, weakness or headache, they must self-isolate and contact their dispatcher to have trips re-assigned. The Manitoba government has provided a screening tool, available at the following link:
<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>

For your information, the City is asking the following screening questions of City employees:

1. Have you travelled (international or domestic) in the past 14 days?
2. Have you been exposed/close contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID 19?
3. Are you living with someone in self-isolation?
4. Are you or anyone you live with currently awaiting COVID-19 test results?
5. Have you been told by Public Health to be in self-isolation or self-monitoring?
6. Employees must advise their supervisor/manager in the event that they have a positive response to any one of these questions. Employees must be aware that they are not to come to work in the event that they are sick. If an employee does appear to be sick in the workplace, supervisors and managers need to immediately send the employee home.

TRANSIT PLUS USERS

The health and safety of Transit Plus passengers is of the highest priority. We are providing you with the information and recommendations from public health officials which may help you protect yourself from COVID-19, including when using Transit Plus services.

1. The federal and provincial governments are strongly urging anyone who has a cold, or flu-like symptoms, such as a cough, fever, runny nose, sore throat, weakness or headache, to self-isolate and not take public transit. They are also advising that you cancel all non-essential travel, especially if you are at higher risk. Further information can be found at:
 - Government of Manitoba: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/prepareandprevent/index.html>
 - Federal Government:
<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/guidance-documents.html>The province has created a self-screening tool which can be found at:
 - <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>
2. The federal and provincial governments are strongly urging anyone who has a cold, or flu-like symptoms, such as a cough, fever, runny nose, sore throat, weakness or headache, to self-isolate. They are also advising that you cancel all non-essential travel, especially if you are at higher risk. A self-screening tool can be found at : <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool>
3. To assist in the containment of COVID 19 and enhance the safety of all passengers, Transit Plus has put in place screening questions that all customers will be asked prior to confirming a ride request. Transit Plus is unable to provide transportation to those customers who have a suspected or confirmed case of COVID 19 for a 14 day period or until symptoms have resolved.
4. The government of Manitoba and the Federal government have advised that the best way to protect yourself and our community from COVID 19 is to make sure that you wash your hands thoroughly, or use an alcohol based hand sanitizer frequently. Cough or sneeze into your sleeve. Increase the physical space between people, social distancing works by limiting the number of people that you and your family come into prolonged close contact with.
5. The most recent recommendations are that a cloth mask or face covering may reduce the chance that others come into contact with respiratory droplets, in the same way that covering a cough with tissues or your sleeve can reduce that chance. Everyone should consider wearing a face covering while in public or using public transportation. Visit the following link for further information:
 - <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/instructions-sew-no-sew-cloth-face-covering.html>