



Memorandum



TO: All Employees

FROM: Health and Safety Department

Cc: City Council

DATE: May 22, 2020

RE: Disinfecting and Sanitizing - Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Health and Safety Department has received several inquiries recently in regards to disinfecting and sanitizing products. As there are a multitude of products out there, we would like to assist in helping you make informed decisions on what products to use.

Coronaviruses are enveloped viruses - this means they are one of the easiest types of viruses to kill with the appropriate disinfectant when used according to the label directions. Health Canada is working with disinfectant manufacturers and industry associations to inform Canadians of the products that can be used to help against the spread of COVID-19. Although they do not claim to kill viruses such as COVID-19, cleaners can help limit the transfer of microorganisms. For high-touch hard surfaces such as door handles and phones, we recommend cleaning these often with either regular household cleaners or diluted bleach according to the label directions.

The Government of Canada has published a list of hard-surface disinfectants that are likely to be effective for use against (COVID-19). This database is updated regularly and allows you to search a product by DIN, product name, manufacturer and product form (i.e. wipe, aerosol, solution, etc.). <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/list.html#tbl1>

The Government of Canada has also published a list of antiseptic/antibacterial skin cleansers or hand sanitizers that meet Health Canada's requirements for safety, effectiveness and quality. This database is updated regularly and allows you to search a product by DIN, product name, manufacturer, active ingredient type, alcohol based, and product form (i.e. liquid, foam, gel, etc.). <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/hand-sanitizer.html>

As always, the best line of defense is to continue to take the following precautions:

- Stay home if you are ill
- wash your hands often with soap and water (20 seconds of scrubbing) or alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- sneeze and cough into your sleeve
- avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth
- avoid contact with people who are sick
- Maintain a social distance of 2 metres
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

Social distancing is working. Please continue to be vigilant, stay strong, stay positive and stay safe.