May 6, 2020

REGIONAL UPDATE #4

All IEC Member Sites
Sarnia-Lambton Building and Construction Trades
Sarnia Construction Association

Dear IEC Partnership:

Re: Sarnia-Lambton Industrial Educational Cooperative (IEC) Response to COVID-19

Members of the IEC 777 Strategy Committee continue to introduce new best practices related to COVID-19 across Sarnia-Lambton. This work follows the hierarchy of controls and leverages our existing highly structured processes to effectively plan and execute work safely. Sites, contractors, and project teams rely on our health and safety committees to help create workable solutions and support implementation.

Throughout this pandemic, there has been growing attention on mental health awareness and the stress that COVID-19 has on workers and their families. Ongoing efforts have been, and continue to be, made to promote and maintain focus on work tasks, hazards, and to maintain a low tolerance for risk. Individuals who intervene and help others are recognized by co-workers and employers. Detailed COVID-19 instructions have been developed as separate procedures and/or on Job Safety Analyses, Safe Work Permits, Task Analysis Safety Cards (TASC) and other safe work planning documentation. Where available, respectful reminders of Employee Assistance Programs (EAP) are being shared with employees as another layer of protection to help people cope with the stress of this pandemic.

One contractor proudly shared how workers are submitting photos and video clips from home as one way to encourage everyone to stay positive and be safe. Sarnia-Lambton has a long history of co-workers, friends and families sharing stories, learning, and making improvements as a team. The words “we are in this together” are not new to any worker in our region. Great work everyone!

If you have any questions regarding our ongoing commitment to our communities and to the health and safety of our workers in Sarnia-Lambton, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

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