

## **UPDATE FROM OFVGA RE COVID-19 RELATED ISSUES, TFWs, etc**

### **Updates on requirements for incoming TFWs**

Today the federal government provided additional information regarding new federal quarantine requirements for incoming travellers, starting February 22. Based on conversations with government officials, OFVGA's current understanding for inbound TFWs arriving in Canada is the following:

- TFWs will continue to be required to demonstrate a negative test in their home country before traveling to Canada, and will be tested upon arrival at the airport in Canada.
- TFWs are currently exempt from the 3-day mandatory federal facility quarantine near the airport – at least until March 14. After March 14, it is anticipated that workers will need to quarantine near the hotel while they await a negative COVID-19 test. This will be at the cost of the government. How this process will work is still to be confirmed.
- The 14-day non-working, paid, quarantine upon arrival continues to remain MANDATORY. If workers spend part of their quarantine in a hotel near the airport as part of a federal requirement, this will count towards the 14-days, even if they finish the quarantine on the farm.

The federal government has committed to working with provinces and stakeholders to establish the quarantine model for workers post March 14, including how the government will cover those associated costs.

The OFVGA will keep members updated as they learn more about these evolving requirements.

---

### **WSPS TFW Safety Resource List**

Workplace Safety and Prevention Services has developed the a safety resource list for employers to easily access specific regulatory requirements. The resource is attached, but can also be downloaded from: <http://www5.wsps.ca/Ba00IE3V400020vU0xvzBbH>

---

### **CAHRC AgriHR Toolkit**

The AgriHR Toolkit, developed by Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council (CAHRC) offers assistance on Human Resources every step of the way with guides, templates, resources, and the critical questions that you need to ask and answer about your business. It offers tools such as an Employee Handbook template you can download and customize for your farm and employees that includes key policies that are becoming components of the Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP) such as the Abuse Free Workplace policy.

The AgriHR Toolkit can be accessed at [www.hrtoolkit.cahrc-ccrha.ca](http://www.hrtoolkit.cahrc-ccrha.ca). Use the discount code: HORTtoolkit.

---

## **COVID-19 Resource Library for International Agricultural Workers and Employers**

### **This new library includes:**

- Extensive list of resources and guidelines to support farm employers
- Extensive list of resources, guidelines, posters, videos, etc. for use by employers as part of their overall COVID safety plans and training of international farm workers, in English, French, Spanish and Thai

Following is the link to the resource:

<https://www.ofvga.org/uploads/resources/files/COVID-19%20Resource%20Library%20for%20International%20Agricultural%20Workers%20and%20Employers%20Combined.pdf>

This resource has been developed as part of a broader initiative aiming to ensure international workers have access to appropriate resources to during the pandemic. Efforts are ongoing to fill resource gaps for international workers so that they can arrive and safely work on Ontario farms during the 2021 growing season and beyond.