

COVID-19 PROTOCOL – CONFINED SPACE ENTRY

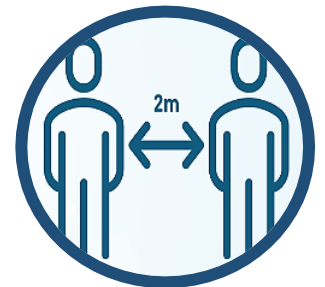
Your health and safety is our priority.

The following protocol provides guidance to Metro Vancouver staff when planning and performing confined space activities to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

According to the hierarchy of control, we must consider ways to minimize the need for entry and rearrange the work to allow for physical distancing among staff wherever possible.

The following should be implemented for all Confined Space entries:

- ✓ All staff should conduct a [Personal Health Check](#) daily before coming to work and stay home if they feel sick or have symptoms of COVID-19.
- ✓ Work will be coordinated based on assessment of workload and its priority when planning work schedules. Tasks will be organized to enable staff to maintain 2 metres physical distancing where possible – both inside and outside the confined space.
- ✓ Limit the entry to the minimum number of staff required.
- ✓ Where the work is necessary, and it is not possible to maintain physical distancing of 2 metres to complete a work task, workers must wear elastomeric air purifying respirators with P100 cartridges and eye protection (full face or half face with goggles or face shield) when working within 2 metres of a co-worker.
- ✓ The Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements for working closer than 2 metres may exceed those indicated on the Confined Space Entry Procedures – always defer to the PPE with the higher level of protection for an entry.
- ✓ Staff will ensure proper [hand hygiene](#) on site and the sanitizing of high-touch points (hard surfaces) and equipment related to the entry:
 - Sanitize [portable radios](#) at the start and at the end of an entry.
 - Sanitize [gas detectors](#) at the end of an entry.
 - Do not sanitize soft gear, especially fall protection equipment as it may degrade (follow manufacturer’s instructions for cleaning).
- ✓ Do not share PPE and minimize handling each other’s PPE or equipment.
 - Exercise caution when removing PPE (respirators, gloves, goggles, etc.).
 - Sanitize personal respirators/PPE upon removal (use diluted bleach solution)



At the end of the entry and whenever possible, clean your hands.