

CAEA Member Advisory re: COVID 19

At this time, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health.html> has assessed the public health risk associated with COVID-19 as low for the general population in Canada. The Government of Canada is confident that the Canadian public health system is prepared to respond to any outbreak of COVID-19 and is reassessing the public health risk, based on the best available evidence, as the situation evolves.

What are members' obligations while under contract?

Until advised otherwise by Equity, members and other artists signed to Equity contracts (presently or in the future) are responsible to fulfil their contractual obligations.

In the unlikely situation where a statutory Government declaration due to COVID-19 forces the cancellation or shutdown of a production or activity (including touring), thereby preventing a member from continuing service, the member should advise Equity immediately (see below). Each situation must be reviewed on its own merits.

A statutory Government declaration may be made by the applicable municipal, provincial or federal government or Public Health Authority for a region. Mandatory compliance with a statutory declaration could force the cancellation or shutdown of a production or activity. In the case of touring productions, it may include the applicable governing body having jurisdiction over the tour destination, and it may extend to include cancellation or shutdown of transportation and accommodation providers, such as airlines and hotels.

What if a member becomes ill due to COVID-19?

Nothing is more important than a member's health and safety. Equity encourages members to follow the prevention and risk guidelines available on the Government of Canada's COVID-19 Prevention and Risks webpage:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks.html>.

If an Equity member or other artist signed to an Equity contract becomes ill they should avail themselves of the Sick Leave or Termination Due to Illness provisions of the applicable agreement or engagement policy. Members with questions about these provisions should advise Equity (see below).

What if I am quarantined due to COVID-19?

In the case where an Equity member or another artist member is exposed to COVID-19 in the workplace they should follow the counsel provided by the applicable Public Health Authority and the Engager regarding quarantine. Members should also advise Equity immediately (see below).

What are the Engagers' obligations?

An Engager must provide a safe and sanitary workplace to all members and artists working under an Equity contract. Any concerns in this regard should be forwarded to Equity immediately (see below).

In the unlikely situation where a statutory Government declaration due to COVID-19 forces the cancellation or shutdown of production or activity (including touring), thereby preventing a member from continuing service, the Engager should immediately advise Equity (see below). Equity will work with the Engagers affected by COVID-19 to ensure that the terms and conditions of the applicable agreement or policy are enforced.

More information is available on Equity's website www.caea.com.