



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
VANCOUVER

PUBLIC ADVISORY ON COVID-19

As of 12 March 2020, the BC Ministry of Health, Office of the Provincial Health Officer and the BC Centre for Disease Control have reported 53 confirmed cases of COVID-19. There have been no reported cases of COVID-19 in Yukon and Northwest Territories as of today.

The situation regarding COVID-19 continues to evolve here in B.C., Canada and other jurisdictions in the world. A Provincial Coordination Committee is in place to respond to COVID-19 in British Columbia. This committee will co-ordinate provincial preparedness and response across sectors.

Given this emergent situation, the priority of the Philippine Consulate General in Vancouver is the health, safety and well-being of Filipinos and Filipino-Canadians in its jurisdiction of British Columbia, Yukon and Northwest Territories. As we continue to monitor and remain vigilant, we enjoin our *kababayans* to take the necessary precautions against COVID-19 by following the advice that Canadian public health officials¹ recommend on how to protect yourself and your family:

- The most important thing you can do to prevent coronavirus and other illnesses is to wash your hands regularly with soap and water; and avoid touching your face.
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing so you're not exposing other people.
- Avoid others who are unwell; stay away from others who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick. Contact your health-care provider ahead of time so you can be safely assessed.
- Avoid unnecessary travel. Avoid crowds and large public gatherings.

For Filipinos in British Columbia: You may contact HealthLink BC at 8-1-1 or 1-833-784-4397 to speak to a healthcare provider regarding novel coronavirus information. For further information and community resources on COVID-19: [http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/coronavirus-\(novel\)#Information--about--the--virus](http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/coronavirus-(novel)#Information--about--the--virus)

For Filipinos in The Yukon: You may contact the Yukon Health and Social Services at hss@gov.yk.ca or the Office of the Yukon Chief Medical Officer of Health (MOH) at (867) 667 8088. Information on COVID-19 can also be found at: yukon.ca/en/information-about-novel-coronavirus-yukoners

For Filipinos in the Northwest Territories: You may contact the Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority at (867) 777 4841 (Environmental Health Officer) or visit their website at <https://www.nthssa.ca/en>. For further information on COVID-19: <https://www.nthssa.ca/en/services/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/coronavirus-disease-covid-19faqs>

We have also attached an infographic on **Hand Hygiene** as provided by the BC Provincial Health Services Authority, for guidance.

12 March 2020, 5:00pm

¹ Health Canada, Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), BC Ministry of Health, Office of the Provincial Health Officer, BC Centre of Disease Control, BC Health System