



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
VANCOUVER

URGENT ADVISORY ON THE CORONAVIRUS 2019 (COVID-19)

The health and well-being of our *kababayans* is our priority.

With the current WHO pandemic declaration and recent confirmed cases of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in British Columbia, as well as the neighboring state of Washington in the US, the Philippine Consulate General in Vancouver, in an effort to protect the general public and its personnel, will implement the following guidelines starting 12 March 2020 for our *kababayans* who wish to avail of our services, until the COVID 19 situation has stabilized:

- (1) Strictly implement procedural adjustments in the availment of consular services to minimize the need to personally appear at the Philippine Consulate. These adjustments will apply to all services at the Consulate: Passport and Travel Documents, Civil Registry, Notarial and Legal Documents (Authentication, Acknowledgment for SPAs, Certifications, etc.), Dual Citizenship, Visas, POLO Verification, OEC, OWWA, and SSS. For further instructions, please click on the link: "[How to Avail of Consular Services During the COVID-19 Outbreak](#)"
- (2) Temporarily hold off any transactions with the Philippine Consulate unless it is an emergency or of vital importance;
- (3) Do not proceed to the Philippine Consulate if you are feeling sick or experiencing any cold or flu symptoms;
- (4) Only the applicant should enter the Philippine Consulate. Exceptions are adults who need to accompany infants, minors, persons with disabilities, or individuals with special circumstances;
- (5) Avoid congregating at the lobby or the area outside of the Philippine Consulate premises; and
- (6) Practice good hygiene when in the Philippine Consulate by disinfecting your hands with the hand sanitizers made available to the public, or by washing your hands.

Your understanding and cooperation in this regard would be highly appreciated.

11 March 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JMA'.



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**HOW TO AVAIL OF SERVICES
DURING THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK**

SERVICE	IS PERSONAL APPEARANCE NECESSARY?	RECOMMENDATION
Passport Application	YES	Defer applying for a passport unless and until your passport has expired and you have an urgent trip ahead.
Civil Registration (Reports of Birth, Marriage, or Death)	NO	Mail documentary requirements to: Philippine Consulate General, Suite 660, 999 Canada Place, Vancouver, BC V6C 3E1, <i>Attention: Civil Registration Section</i> Please include your contact details.
Notarization of documents (e.g. Special Power of Attorney; Affidavits; Contracts)	YES (for SPAs, Certs, Affidavits) NO	Defer your notarial transaction unless the required document is urgently needed. Another option: Have the document notarized first by a local notary public, then have it authenticated by either the Society of Notaries Public or Law Society of BC, before mailing said document to the Philippine Consulate General, Suite 660, 999 Canada Place, Vancouver, BC V6C 3E1, <i>Attention: Notarial Section</i>
“Dual Citizenship”/Retaining or Reacquiring Philippine Citizenship	NO (for preprocessing of documents) YES (for oath-taking)	Email scanned documentary requirements to: dualcitizenshipsection@vancouverpcg.org with the email subject: “Request to Preprocess” OR Mail <u>photocopies</u> of documentary requirements to: Philippine Consulate General, Suite 660, 999 Canada Place, Vancouver, BC V6C 3E1 <i>Attention: Dual Citizenship Section</i> Once all documents are found complete, you will be contacted to schedule your oath-taking.
Visa	NO	Mail documentary requirements to: Philippine Consulate General, Suite 660, 999 Canada Place, Vancouver, BC V6C 3E1. <i>Attention: Visa Section</i>
Overseas Voters Registration	YES	Defer registering during this critical time. Registration is open until September 2021.

NOTE: When mailing, please include a self-addressed prepaid Canada Post Xpresspost envelope, with tracking number, which we will use to mail you back your documents. Thank you.



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SERVICE	IS PERSONAL APPEARANCE NECESSARY?	RECOMMENDATION
POLO Verification	NO	Mail documentary requirements to POLO Vancouver at 999 Canada Place, Suite 601, Vancouver, BC V6C 3E1 Queries relating to verification requirements and processing may be coursed through polo.vancouver@yahoo.ca or by calling the POLO Hotline at 604 767 3354 or its Office Landline at 604 641 1234 (Monday – Friday at 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.).
OEC Issuance	YES (for Category I and II Workers under POEA Memorandum Circular No. 2, Series of 2019) NO (for Category III Workers)	Mail documentary requirements to POLO Vancouver at 999 Canada Place, Suite 601, Vancouver, BC V6C 3E1 Queries relating to OEC issuance and processing may be coursed through polo.vancouver@yahoo.ca or by calling the POLO Hotline at 604 767 3354 or its POLO Landline at 604 641 1234 (Monday – Friday at 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.).
PAOS	NO	May be accomplished via telephone conferencing or video conferencing.
OWWA Membership Renewal	YES	Defer membership renewal until one (1) week before its expiration. Validity of membership may be confirmed by calling the OWWA at 604 641 1234 or by sending an email query at vancouver@owwa.gov.ph
SSS Annual Confirmation	NO	On-line appointment for annual confirmation for pensioners may be accomplished through ofw.relations@sss.gov.ph
SSS Filing of Claims	YES	Only for the following claims: 1. Sickness and 2. Maternity. All other claims may be filed by mailing the documentary requirements to SSS Vancouver at 999 Canada Place, Suite 601, Vancouver, BC V6C 3E1 Members may call the SSS at 604 641 1234 (Monday – Friday at 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) or may send an email query to cruzadaja@sss.gov.ph
On-line Verification of Personal Data	NO	Members may call the SSS at 604 641 1234 (Monday – Friday at 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) or may send an email query to cruzadaja@sss.gov.ph