



Mechanical Contractors Association
of British Columbia

Mechanical Contractors Association of BC

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Ms. Louise Kim
Senior Manager
Policy, Regulation and Research Division
WorkSafeBC
P.O. Box 5350 Station Terminal
Vancouver BC V6B 5L5

Sent via email to: policy@worksafebc.com, copies to COCA and Employers' Forum

Dear Ms. Kim,

Re: Adding Diseases Caused by Communicable Viral Pathogens, including COVID-19, to Schedule 1 of the *Workers Compensation Act (Act)*

By way of this letter and through its membership in the Council of Construction Associations (COCA), the Mechanical Contractors Association of BC (MCABC) endorses the Employers' Forum submission of June 7th regarding the proposal to add COVID-19 to Schedule 1.

MCABC is the dedicated provincial representative for mechanical contractors, their affiliated and sub-trades, suppliers, manufacturers and professional services in BC. Mechanical Contractors represent a suite of trades, including but not limited to plumbers, HVAC technicians, gasfitters and fire protection specialists. They are often the largest representative trade on a construction site at any one time. Their adherence to not only compliance but leadership when COVID-19 emergency orders swept the province and the construction industry was permitted to continue operations under heightened protocols, was exceptional. Mechanical Contractors, along with the entire construction industry in BC, were dedicated to implementing and following the most stringent requirements to ensure the health and safety of colleagues, their families and industry partners.

Mechanical Contractors remain vigilant in their efforts to set a benchmark of health and safety excellence while ensuring the continued employment of thousands of men and women in our industry. We are proud that our members' efforts related to COVID-19 have not strained the WorkSafeBC system and oppose changes that show disregard for the construction industry's exemplary performance.

On behalf of MCABC, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the discussion paper.

Best Regards,

Kim Barbero
CEO

