



## MEMORANDUM

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**To:** Staff, Faculty and Students

**CC:** Communications

**From:** Senior Management

**Date:** March 13, 2020

**RE:** **Student Information - Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)**

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Dear FNUniv Students,

In light of the growing concerns over COVID-19 (Coronavirus), FNUniv Senior Management and a team of administrative and academic leadership have convened a planning committee to ensure we work towards keeping students, staff and guests safe at our campuses.

We would like to share this information with students on our response to COVID-19:

- The COVID-19 virus is a new respiratory illness that spreads with close person-to-person contact. There is no approved vaccine at present. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the spread of this virus as a 'pandemic.' WHO defines a pandemic *"as a worldwide spread of a new disease for which most people do not have immunity."*
- To date, there is one presumptive case of COVID-19 in Saskatchewan (Saskatoon). Provincial and national health agencies emphasize the risk in Saskatchewan is considered low. At present, the university remains open and academic and business operations continue as usual.
- We are ensuring that frequently touched areas and surfaces are prioritized for enhancing cleaning.
- We have provided signage at all campuses about the new virus and preventative personal hygiene.
- We continue to work on a contingency plan for academic and administrative continuity.
- We continue to consult with the University of Regina and monitor reports from health authorities.

According to several resources, the best method to protect yourself against coronavirus is to practice everyday preventive actions, including:

- Cough and sneeze into the bend of your elbow;
- Wash your hands often with soap and water; if soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands;
- Maintain safe food practices;



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- Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- Avoid close physical contact, such as handshaking and embracing as forms of acknowledgment.

Travel: The Government of Canada recommends avoiding all travel or non-essential travel. All travellers should self-monitor for symptoms.

Please review the following websites for more information on COVID-19.

## **Public Health Agency of Canada**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

## **Saskatchewan Government Public Health**

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus>

## **University of Regina**

<https://www.uregina.ca/hr/hsw/Coronavirus/index.html>

**If you are sick or feel unwell, please stay at home.** Inform your instructor of your absence. If you are concerned about your symptoms, call 811 – the Saskatchewan Healthline -- for guidance about seeking medical attention.

Your health and safety is our priority.

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If you have further questions, please contact:

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