



Ontario Food Terminal Board

Date: March 31, 2020
Bulletin: 1886
To: CFG Members & Employees
From: I. B. Nicholas
Re: Ontario Food Terminal - Covid-19 – Media Inquiry Response from Kenneth W. Knox, Chair

In line with Public Health Protocols, the Terminal has aggressive COVID-19 protocols and contingency plans in place and remains open for wholesale buyers.

The Ontario Food Terminal received notification on Saturday night from two warehouse tenants of one confirmed and one presumptive (TBC) case of COVID-19 among their employees.

- Neither of the affected employees have been on site at their respective warehouses since March 19, more than 13 days ago
- Toronto Public Health has been notified. All people that worked directly with these employees were notified immediately and asked to self-isolate as per public health protocols.
- The Terminal took the additional step and notified all wholesale tenants so that they could take any additional actions necessary
- Upon being notified of these cases, the Terminal took immediate action across the terminal and has taken steps to protect employees and the food supply by temporarily closing affected warehouse units for deep cleaning as well as deep cleaning the common areas
- As the Terminal is a zoned environment, operations remain largely unaffected aside from the two vendor warehouses which have undergone a deep clean. The affected wholesalers have completed a deep clean, as per Public Health instructions
- This is in addition to sanitizing and cleaning protocols that have been in place since the onset of the virus
- These are companies that operate within the terminal and they have taken all appropriate steps in response to COVID-19
- There was no identified risk to the public

Protocols in place include:

- The terminal is not open to the public, and each employee or buyer is asked a series of screening questions upon entry
- Dividing market into zones to provide additional distancing measures
- Buyers stay at their truck, minimizing movement around the terminal grounds
- Each warehouse has designated separate ‘runners’ who do not enter the store and who deliver to the buyer’s truck
- Enhanced cleaning and sanitizing processes have been implemented and continue to be in place

As the Terminal is a wholesale facility, it is not open to the public, but continues to operate and all necessary steps have been completed in response. I expect that this provides you with sufficient information.

Kenneth W. Knox
Chair, Ontario Food Terminal Board