



# COVID-19 Bulletin 2

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March 16, 2020

Dear Unifor 87-M members:

Your Local today sent letters to all its Employers laying out six areas we want them to implement to help protect your financial security and your health, and to not force you to use up non-sick leave benefits if you have to stop working. We want your Employers to:

1. Make whole for up to 14 days any employee who is required to self-isolate, go into quarantine, provide necessary child-care, or care for an ill or vulnerable family member. This means that employees must not be forced to use up non-medical collective agreement benefits that include but are not limited to vacation, lieu or banked time.
2. Not require employees to obtain medical notes to substantiate a COVID-19 related absence.
3. Not discipline employees for a COVID-19 related matter and respect the right to refuse unsafe work.
4. Initiate work-from-home or remote-work arrangements.
5. Allow employees with child-care obligations to work flexible hours, including when they're working from home or remotely.
6. Deep-clean workplaces and make available enhanced personal hygiene products in the workplace and for employees who must be in the field.

Furthermore, we want to open discussions with Employers to try to mitigate financial hardship for commissioned sales staff as well as figure out what's best for out-of-town correspondents in these rapidly changing circumstances.

To be absolutely clear, these are six things we are asking our Employers to do — do not assume they have agreed to them. While some of our Employers have already implemented some of the items on our list, the best course of action is to check with your Employer if it becomes necessary and get the most up-to-date employee information, follow Employer protocols, and contact your unit's union representatives for any updates.

Yours, in solidarity,

Paul Morse

President

[www.unifor87m.org](http://www.unifor87m.org)