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April 23, 2020

To: Wayne Peterson, CECCO
Ilan Cunningham, COCA
Clive Thurston, OGCA

Dear Colleagues,

We are attaching a copy of a document entitled “**Recommended COVID-19 Safety Protocol and Prevention Measures**” that was prepared by our Director of Occupational Services, Carmine Tiano, together with our Health and Safety Committee. This document was approved by our Executive Board and the safety practices and recommendations have been outlined to help us work through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic was unexpected, all construction industry partners need to look at how we have neglected basic hygiene on sites and not properly followed protocols to prevent the spread of infectious diseases like COVID-19. The problems with unsanitary toilets, non-functioning clean up stations with no water, workers being crammed into elevators, lack of access to sanitizers, and other seemingly perennial problems all pre-date the pandemic and have to a large extent, been amplified by it. Having said that, we cannot go back to the pre-pandemic status quo.

Our goal is to secure transformative improvements to working conditions for all construction workers in Ontario. We would encourage you to share these guidelines with your membership and if there are any issues of concern with the guidelines, we are open to having a discussion with you.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Dillon
Business Manager and Secretary Treasurer
Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council of Ontario