



COVID-19 Information for Farm Business Consultants

Definition of Farm Business Consultant:

A farm business consultant is hired by a farm operator or food processor to supplement their existing knowledge, enabling the producer or processor to make sound, informed decisions. Many consultants have education in accounting, business management, agriculture, commerce, finance or economics.

Key Links:

[PHO Order-Workplace COVID-19 Safety Plan](#): The PHO Order Workplace COVID-19 Safety Plans requires all employers to follow WorkSafeBC guidelines on workplace safety. While a COVID-19 specific Safety Plan is no longer required, employers are required to have a communicable disease safety plan in its place.

[WorkSafeBC Communicable Disease Resources](#): Communicable Disease prevention information and instructions are available on the WorkSafeBC website.

[BCCDC COVID-19](#): The BC Centre for Disease Control website provides information on COVID-19 and how to prevent its transmission.

[COVID-19 Self Assessment Tool](#): An assessment tool is available on the BCCDC website for individuals to easily self-assess symptoms.

[PHO COVID-19 Website](#): The PHO website should be checked regularly for new orders and guidance that may impact your work.

Basic Safety Precautions

Review COVID-19 information available on the BCCDC website to understand what the symptoms of COVID-19 are and what to do if you become sick. You should understand activities that increase your risk and what prevention measures you can put in place to decrease your risk of contracting COVID-19.

For example:

- Where possible conduct meetings via telephone or virtually, and limit in-person visits to those that are absolutely necessary.
- Do not attend a farm or processing facility if you or the operator are sick or have COVID-19 like symptoms.

When attending a facility:

- maintain a distance of 2 metres throughout the duration of the visit
- only enter a premises when it is absolutely necessary
- wear a mask if maintaining a 2-metre physical distance is difficult or any time you are indoors
- wash hands before and after visit
- do not touch your face, mouth, eyes or nose, and

- limit touching items to ones that are absolutely necessary

After the visit:

- wipe down all personal items used during the consultation including tools, personal items, vehicle, etc., and
- if the consultant or operator become sick within 48 hours of a farm visit, the other party should be notified.

Farm Business Consultant as Employee of the Operator

The PHO order for Workplace COVID-19 Safety Plans requires all operators who are employers to develop a communicable disease plan that should be shared with any employees working on the grounds of the operation. Ensure that your communicable disease plan follows guidelines found on the WorkPlaceBC website.

Farm Consultant as Self-Employed

As a farm business consultant that is self-employed with no employees, you may want to create your own communicable disease prevention plan. Developing this plan will help you to assess the level of risk involved in your day-to-day activities and help you to determine what actions you can take to decrease your risk. Your communicable disease prevention plan should be available for all employers or operators who wish to review it.

Farm Consulting Business with Employees

A farm consulting business with employees must comply with the PHO Order for Workplace COVID-19 Safety Plan. Information on how to complete a communicable disease plan available on the WorkSafeBC website.