



**March 13, 2020**

**This just in from Alberta Health:**

We are trying to assist in keeping you up to date with news from Alberta Health that might impact your organization. Here is the latest from the 4:00 pm [news release](#):

**Changes to employment rules**

Government is acting quickly to improve employment rules to protect Albertans by implementing paid job-protected leave.

Changes to the *Employment Standards Code* will allow employees who are required to self-isolate or are caring for a loved one with COVID-19 to take 14 days of paid job-protected leave to cover the self-isolation period being recommended by Alberta's chief medical officer of health.

There will be no requirement to have a medical note for such leave or to have worked for an employer for 90 days to qualify for such leave.

The details of how these changes will be administered will be provided in the coming days. We recognize this could put pressure on employers. As we work through the details, we are keeping this in mind and working toward solutions to address these challenges.

**Schools and Daycares:**

Schools and daycares can remain open at this time, but should take steps to protect the health of students and staff:

- eliminate large congregations of students
- ensure no more than 250 people are in the same room at any given time
- consider cancelling extracurricular activities that involve physical contact

**Self-isolation in students or staff:**

Self-isolation does not mean the person is infected with COVID-19. If testing confirms a case, public health officials will immediately contact any close contacts believed to be a risk.

If a student or teacher has been identified as a close contact, it is not recommended to keep other students at home. Health officials will ensure all appropriate precautions are taken.

Students who are not identified as needing to self-isolate, do not need to stay home from school and do not meet the testing criteria for COVID-19. Therefore, requesting a doctor's note is not appropriate.

