TFW Worker 2021 Arrivals

The following are key considerations and links to help you navigate through requirements of arriving agricultural workers for 2021 while we are still under pandemic rules. Please ensure you contact your workers well in advance if possible, to ensure they are aware of these new procedures.

Prior to Arrival

Effective January 7, all passengers five years of age or older, are required to test negative for COVID-19 by either a molecular polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or Loop-mediated Isothermal Amplification (LAMP) test before travelling by air from another country to Canada. Certain countries with limited capacity for testing have been provided with an extension to the 72 hours (to 96 hours) or exemptions (Jamaica until Jan 18th with test upon arrival at Pearson) but these are only temporary measures. It is therefore crucial if you can, to give your workers notice of these new requirements as soon as possible.

Details here https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2021/01/new-pre-departure-covid-19-testing-requirements-come-into-effect-for-all-air-travellers-flying-into-canada.html

Source Country Facilities for PCR Testing

Search for your worker's country of origin under <u>Travel Advice and Advisories</u> to find facilities available at the link below. Click on the health link for each country to view any available sites for testing. These resources should be updated by Global Affairs Canada as more facilities come on line.

https://travel.gc.ca/

for example: Mexico facilities (in Spanish)

https://www.gob.mx/cms/uploads/attachment/file/602186/LISTADO_DE_LABORATORIOS_QUE_REALIZAN_EL_DIAGNOON_N STICO DE COVID-19 17122020.pdf

ArriveCan App

As of November 21, 2020, all travellers entering Canada, including Temporary Foreign Workers (TFW) will be required to submit contact and quarantine information digitally upon and after entry via the ArriveCAN app or webpage.

You must use ArriveCAN before you board your flight to Canada.

If you're not the traveller, you can submit travel information on behalf of others who may be unable to use ArriveCAN by:

- <u>downloading the ArriveCAN app</u> or
- signing in online

Once you've submitted their information, print the receipt page or take a screenshot. Send it to the traveller to show to the border services officer. The traveller is responsible for ensuring they're compliant with the requirements for entry into Canada. You don't need to be travelling with them.

Additional Information on this requirement can be found here: https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/arrivecan.html

PCR Testing at the Airport

The Ontario government launched a COVID-19 testing program at Toronto Pearson, starting on January 6, 2021. This pilot program will offer free voluntary tests for international passengers arriving in Canada. Testing will be made available at both Terminal 1 and Terminal 3, administered by Switch Health.

Details on eligibility and sign up process in the link below

https://www.torontopearson.com/en/healthy-airport/covid-19-testing-at-toronto-pearson#eligible

On the Farm

COVID Workplace Safety Plan & Templates

All growers are required to have a COVID-19 workplace safety plan in place for their farm. Information on how to build a plan, and a template that can be used can be found at: https://www.ontario.ca/page/develop-your-covid-19-workplace-safety-plan.

OMAFRA: Agri-Food Sector Workplace Safety Toolkit

The Working with farm operators to stop the spread of COVID-19 on farms resource (also known as the Toolkit) is kept up to date by OMAFRA. The resource includes information to support employers as they work to keep workers safe, resources and funding available, and what to do if your farm experiences workers with symptoms, test positive, and in the event of an outbreak.

Active Screening

Daily active screening of all employees (not just TFW) is required. Active screening log templates in Spanish and English are available on the tender fruit website under the grower section https://www.ontariotenderfruit.ca/growers/index

Hotels Available for 14-Day Quarantine

Please ensure you contact your health unit whether you are using a hotel for isolation or isolating on farm to verify procedures and all clear dates. The following are hotels that have been confirmed available for 2021 season. Other areas/options are available on the OFVGA website here: https://www.ofvga.org/covid-19

Niagara Region

Ramada Niagara Falls Near the Falls

5706 Ferry Street, Niagara Falls Ontario L2G 1S7 Contact: Rosetta Armeni, Director of Sales

Cell: 289.929.9613 Meals plans available

Canada's Best Value Inn

420 Ontario Street St. Catharines

Contact: Manny or Natasha 905-688-1646

The Beacon

2793 Beacon Blvd. Jordan

Contact: Ian Shulman 905-562-4155

Meal plans available

The Heart of Niagara Hotels-St. Catharines

Contact: Joe Mannella – Director of Sales Email: Joe.Mannella@honhotels.com

Office: 905-704-5643 Mobile: 289-969-1260 Meal plans available

***Three hotels to choose from:

Holiday Inn and Suites

Hampton Inn

Best Western Hotel

Brantford

<u>Hampton Inn and Suites and</u> Towne Place Suites by Marriott

Cindy Hiscock Sales & Marketing Manager Cell: 519-720-2772 email: sales@bawagroup.net

Best Western Brantford

19 Holiday Dr, Brantford
(519) 753-8652 ext 176
Joanne Brooks joanne@bestwesternbrantford.com
Meals and laundry service available

Southwestern Ontario

Travel Lodge / Comfort Inn

555 Bloomfield Road, Chatham ON N7M 5J5 Contact Info – Amanda Cousins, Sales Manager c.705.349.8485 amanda.cousins@sunraygroup.ca

Federal Funding for 14-day TFW Quarantine

Applications for the 2021 program year will be accepted until 6:00pm. EST March 31, 2021 or until funding has been fully committed or until otherwise announced by the program. The 2021 program year begins on January 1, 2021 and will provide funding for workers who arrive in Canada on or after January 1, 2021 and up to March 31, 2021, or the expiry or repeal of the Order under the Quarantine Act, whichever comes first.

Steps:

- 1.apply with the expected number of arriving workers
- 2.successful applicants will receive a contribution agreement that will need to be signed
- 3. submit claim form

You may submit more than one claim if you have temporary foreign workers arriving on different dates throughout the season, or you may wait until all of your workers have arrived and submit one claim for all.

You must include the Unique Client Identifier (UCI) for every temporary foreign worker as well as their date of arrival. The UCI is assigned by Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada to each temporary foreign worker and should be available on the worker's work permit.

Additional details and application form in link below

https://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/agricultural-programs-and-services/mandatory-isolation-support-for-temporary-foreign-workers-program/?id=1588186409721

Need further assistance?

Please call Sarah 905-688-0990 ext. 232