



International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers

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Re: Mandatory Covid-19 Testing

The Iron Workers District Council is aware that a number of project owners and general contractors are implementing mandatory Covid-19 Testing protocols at project sites that are applicable to our members.

We are also acutely aware that we are operating in a pandemic and that the continued safe operation of the construction industry is vital to Ontario and is also vital to our members and the families they support.

Covid-19 testing protects our members and their co-workers. It protects their families and it protects the general public. We have all learned how quickly the virus can spread including when persons are not showing symptoms. The provincial caseloads, hospitalizations and death rates remain very disturbing. Recent news on the increased transmission rates of variants are also very disturbing. We are not immune from Covid-19.

Accordingly, where a project site has a mandated, reasonable Covid-19 testing protocol we strongly encourage our members to cooperate and participate. Members should expect that the refusal to do so will result in not being able to work at that site.

At the present time, as a general matter, the Iron Workers support responsible Covid-19 testing as in the best interests of the membership. This is a serious health and safety matter and, Covid-19 is on the list of hazards from which we want every single member to come home safe every single day.

Fraternally,


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