



COVID-19 – Peer Support Group Meeting Notes

April 7 & 9, 2020

WATCH PAST MEETINGS: <https://www.meatpoultryon.ca/peer-support-group/>

Summary and Update from Last Call – Franco Naccarato, MPO
<p>Updates from last week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- MPO will be doing outreach to individual plants and with commodity partners on how supply chains are affected.- Members asked to start thinking about what we need to do for the next 30-60-90.- Please share recommendations for guest speakers with April april@meatpoultryon.ca- Contact Derek or Franco at MPO if you need face masks as we are trying to put in a bulk order. derek@meatpoultryon.ca or franco@meatpoultryon.ca
Guest Speakers
<p>Carrie Warring, Senior Policy and Program Advisor Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Public Health TOPIC: Public Health Precautions in Food Processing Plants – Click for resources</p> <p>Karen Sample, Owner 31st Line Strategic Communications TOPIC: Leading Through Communication in Times of Adversity – Click here for presentation</p>
Roundtable Discussion
<p>Q&A/New Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- PPE Supply: http://bestdamndoors.ca/ for face shields- Government survey on protective gear will be sent via Word on the Block.- Employee Morale: Becoming an issue, how to keep boosting employee morale.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- \$100 raise every week, temporary wage increase, doesn't seem to be long term solution- Provide lunch



- **Foreign workers:** Government solutions seem to be working well.

Best Practices:

- **Ecommerce Solutions:** MPO to provide presentation next week. Some members are using Shopify or Woo Commerce.
- **Social distancing on the line:** Develop subgroups of employees and segregate, isolated washrooms for each group.
- **Screening:** Use Health Ontario screening tools and guidelines for sick employees.
- **Labour Shortage:** Government has website to connect for hiring <https://www.ontario.ca/page/agriculture-and-food-jobs-ontario>

General Discussion:

- Lamb demand down, beef and ground beef demand is up (burgers & ready to eat).
- Demand for smaller orders, no catering/bulk orders.
- **Thank your inspectors** to help improve relationships and motivate them to want to come back.