



# Health & Safety Report – February 2022

December 2021 – February 2022			
Number of Reported Injuries/Illnesses		Top Injury/Illness Trends	
Lost Time	67	Biological Hazards/Illness – COVID-19	77
Health Care	1	Layover Hazards - Communicable Diseases/Pandemics	4
		Bending/Stretching/twisting/pushing/pulling In the galley and during service and while using the OFAR	2

## Health and Safety Advocacy

Happy New Year from the Health and Safety Committee! We thank every member of CUPE Local 4092 for their valuable occupational health and safety advocacy in 2021. In solidarity, crew submitted a record number of Health and Safety Complaints (ACF32 Employee Safety & Health Concern Form) regarding issues such as the increasing passenger service levels and the Omicron SARS-CoV-2 variant. Submitting a Health and Safety Complaint shows the company that an issue is on our radar. When multiple reports are submitted on the same issue, it sends a clear message that it is important to us. In addition, it amplifies our voice at the Health and Safety Committee. We were humbled by the response from cabin crew to our call for reporting health and safety concerns. For this, we say: Bravo!

## Employee Screening Program

Cabin crew members who are participating in the employee home screening program must upload their test results. We are aware of issues uploading the results of home rapid antigen tests via the Air Canada Employee Screening App. If this is the case, take a screenshot of the results and reach out to [rapidcovid19rapide@aircanada.ca](mailto:rapidcovid19rapide@aircanada.ca).

## Face-Mask Warning Card

Passengers are required to wear an approved face covering at all times. This Transport Canada and Air Canada requirement is meant to protect everyone's health (see the [Transport Canada Interim Order Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No.16, section 38](#)). Only passengers with an exemption from MEDA or those actively eating or drinking are exempt from the policy. On the second occurrence of non-compliance, provide the passenger with the Face-Mask Warning Card. You do not need authorization from the Pilot-in-Command or from your In-Charge Flight Attendant; but do notify the rest of the crew that it was issued to that passenger. If a passenger is non-compliant during boarding, notify the Pilot-in-Command and consider offloading them. If the passenger continues to violate the policy, it becomes a Level 1 in the Levels of Interference.

## COVID-19 Precautions

With the Omicron variant, the Health and Safety Committee saw a significant increase in associated Health and Safety Complaints and Work Related Injury/Illness reports. We continue to advocate for: changes to service to reduce the number and length of interactions with passengers; a respiratory program for the N95 respirator ("fit tests"); active contact tracing;

designated crew lavatories; reducing cross-cabin work; and applying local public health precautions to training.

You must wear mandatory personal protective equipment (PPE). This includes gloves and a mask (surgical mask, KN95, or N95 respirator). If you are using the surgical mask, you must wear the AC cloth mask over it during service. Optional PPE include the face-shield, protective eyewear, eyeglass shields, and gown. It is discouraged to wear non-company provided PPE. Follow physical distancing protocols as much as possible. Perform the self-assessment before coming to work. If you feel any symptoms of COVID-19, book off (if you think you caught it from work follow the work-related illness process, otherwise it is a regular book off). Continue to submit health and safety reports when a concern arises.

### **Right to Refuse (RTR)**

If you believe danger exists in the workplace, you must be at the workplace to do a right to refuse. Follow the flow chart in the FAM 2.20.3 Right to Refuse Dangerous Work. For detailed information, email [rtr@accomponent.ca](mailto:rtr@accomponent.ca).

### **WSIB and WIP**

If you are injured or become ill from the time you show up to work for a pairing until you leave work, you must submit a claim to WSIB\* even if you do not book off. If you do book off, and your absence will be for more than seven days, you must also submit a claim to WIP. Failure to do so could result in being placed on an “unauthorised leave of absence.”

You do not have to submit a claim to WSIB only if you fulfill *all three* criteria:

1. Did not book off.
2. Did not lose wages.
3. Did not seek medical attention.

You have six months to date of injury or diagnosis to report to WSIB. Reach out to the Local for questions regarding WSIB ([office@local4092.ca](mailto:office@local4092.ca)).

You have 14 days to date of injury or diagnosis to report to WIP. Reach out to Patricia Eberley for questions regarding WIP ([eberleywip@accomponent.ca](mailto:eberleywip@accomponent.ca)).

For more information, please visit [www.local4092.ca](http://www.local4092.ca) (*Member Resources > WSIB – Work Injuries or WIP*).

\*Residents of Quebec must apply to CNEST. Reach out to [cnesst.scfp@gmail.com](mailto:cnesst.scfp@gmail.com) for more information.

In Solidarity,



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