



November 5, 2020

Dear colleagues,

As you are likely aware, the Public Health Agency of Canada updated its face mask guidance at noon on November 3, 2020. The update contains important changes for Canadians that Transport Canada intends to codify in its Interim Order (IO) as soon as possible. Subject to ministerial approval, the main changes in the IO will include:

- an updated face mask definition (including a reference to having “multiple” layers of tightly woven fabric instead of the current Interim Order definition which states “at least two layers”);
- an allowance to wear the type of mask normally recommended for the hearing impaired or for those who interact with people who use lip reading to communicate; and
- more flexibility regarding the minimum age for wearing a mask. Although a child who is between the ages of two and five years will still be required to have and wear a mask generally, consistent with the update Public Health of Canada guidance, the new IO language will indicate that children in this specific age group do not have to wear a mask if they cannot tolerate it. Children six and over must wear a mask at all times unless a medical certificate is provided.

We currently anticipate that Interim Order No. 13 could be issued as early as November 10, 2020. This is necessary to ensure continued alignment with public health advice and guidelines. We would like to apologize for these last minute changes.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or questions.

Thank you,

Aviation Security