

CAS and COVID-19

The CAS Board of Directors assures society members that their health and safety is paramount to the organization. We are extremely mindful of our duty of care and are therefore watching the evolution of the COVID-19 virus carefully. Currently, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has assessed the public health risk associated with COVID-19 as low for Canada. The Public health risk is continually reassessed as new information becomes available and we monitor the WHO and Canadian Public Health websites daily. Shortly we will be releasing a CAS information sheet authored by Dr Daniel Bainbridge, President, providing guidance and recommendations during COVID-19 airway manipulations.

With the CAS Annual Meeting scheduled for June 19 - 22, the national staff and planning team continue to plan confidently. There are currently no plans to postpone or cancel the meeting. However, as the COVID-19 situation is changing daily, we remain watchful.

We are in daily contact with the convention centre in Halifax and we are in regular communication with the Halifax health advisory bodies. And reviewing recommendations by Health Canada and the CDC. In our discussion with the Halifax Convention Centre they assured us that:

- They have implemented enhanced standard cleaning protocols, including increased frequency of cleaning, and are following the recommendations of health authorities.
- There are currently no cancellations at the Halifax Convention Centre due to COVID-19. They have several events taking place over the coming months and look forward to welcoming CAS to their venue.

CAS has developed a list of informative COVID-19 links and information for members at <https://www.cas.ca/en/practice-resources/news/cas-articles/2020/coronavirus-tips-and-guidelines>. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact CAS at anesthesia@cas.ca or call 416-480-0602.