

CORONAVIRUS

The Virus

The new virus, originated in Wuhan, central China, in December. Like SARS, it is transmitted between humans and results in severe respiratory problems. This new virus, called 2019 nCoV, has an incubation period of up to two weeks and contagion is possible during the incubation period, even before symptoms appear.

Scientists have successfully replicated the coronavirus in the laboratory, in what they describe as a crucial step forward in the fight against the ongoing viral pneumonia epidemic.

The World Health Organization said Thursday that the epidemic is an international emergency but called for travel and trade with China not to be limited. The risk remains low in Canada, according to Public Health Canada.

Case Tracking

According to Le Monde of January 29, 2020¹

- 213 deaths, mortality is present only in China
- 9,925 confirmed cases of contamination
- 3 confirmed cases of contamination in Canada

For a chart of infections by country, [click here](#).

Check out Health Canada's fact sheet [here](#).

¹ https://www.lemonde.fr/planete/article/2020/01/29/coronavirus-25-nouveaux-deces-en-chine-dans-la-region-ou-a-demarre-l-epidemie_6027562_3244.html

² https://www.lemonde.fr/planete/article/2020/01/27/coronavirus-en-france-queles-criteres-de-risques-comment-reagir-les-questions-que-vous-vous-posez_6027408_3244.html

Business Continuity Best Practices

Business Continuity Plan Management

- Update contacts (managers, employees, suppliers)
- Validate business continuity solutions that can be applied

Monitoring

- Monitor the situation and report what's new
- Assess the preventive measures to be put in place

Travelling

- Review travel policies according to the regions visited
- Review telework options where applicable

Awareness

- Assess the need to communicate to reassure employees
- If time permits, perform a tabletop exercise

Messages to communicate in your organization

- The organization's business continuity program is on the lookout for news in connection with this new virus and all necessary arrangements will be put in place when the time comes.
- All employees are encouraged to inform the authorities if they have been in contact with someone from the Wuhan area with flu-like symptoms.
- Basic hygiene measures and respiratory etiquette are recommended.

For more tips on how to manage this situation as part of your business continuity program, discuss with one of our continuity experts.

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