

January 26, 2020

AGOAC is NOT canceling programs.

As you may have heard a middle aged member of the public has been hospitalized at Sunnybrook Hospital suffering from the novel Coronavirus.

This hospitalized person(A) was on a plane that arrived in Toronto last week.

Another person(B) on the same plane has a friend(C) who participates in AGOAC programs. To have a higher chance of infection person(B) would have to have been sitting within three rows of person(A), who at the time had mild symptoms. At the moment this is unknown. Friend(C) was in contact with person(B). Friend(C) has chosen to self quarantine themselves. All members make choices based on their own criteria and will not be criticized for doing that.

The coronavirus is not new. It has, however, mutated into the current form novel coronavirus that is now causing a more serious illness in a human host.

Coronaviruses are primarily spread through close contact with another individual, in particular through coughing and sneezing on somebody else who is within a range of about 3 to 6 feet from that person.

At this early stage meaningful information concerning the novel coronavirus is harder to come by. There is no reason to panic. This is the flu and cold season and symptoms are similar. Toronto Board of Health has stated that the risk of infection is currently very low. (see link below)

Just because a person contracts the virus does not mean they will become sick to the same degree as others. As in the flu there are degrees of severity. People with underlying medical conditions are more susceptible to greater severity.

AGOAC is not medical experts. The best way to keep up to date regarding the novel coronavirus is to listen to news broadcast. AGOAC will not suggest any type of remedy or prevention beyond standard sanitary precautions, such as washing your hands with soap and water or try to avoid touching your face in the eye area.

Members should use their own standard to determine if their health status should cause them to seek further advice from medical professionals.

Paste the following link in your browser to get more information and also additional information links. Make sure you paste the full link, not just the first line

<https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/toronto-public-health-reports-first-presumptive-confirmed-case-of-novel-coronavirus-837421856.html>