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16 March 2020

Advisory on COVID-19 outbreak

Dear Bangladesh Community Members,

You are aware that the novel Corona Virus (COVID-19) is spreading too fast throughout the globe. Canada has been affected by COVID-19 and till today there has been 324 confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection. In Ontario the total infection is 145, affected people are from 20-80 years old.

In view of the possible risks associated with the pandemic COVID-19, Bangladesh Consulate General in Toronto would like to flag the followings to the Bangladesh Community Members living in Canada.

- a) You are requested to strictly follow the instructions/advices/cautions circulated by the Federal and Provincial governments regarding movement and quarantine, as appropriate.
- b) To avoid high risk of infection while traveling, if it is not utmost necessary, it is advisable not to undertake any travel at this trying time. Try to restrict your movement as much as possible until the situation gets better. There is a high possibility of getting infected by COVID-19 while travelling, particularly but not limited to the coronavirus affected countries.
- c) Stay informed about the latest updates, follow the advices given by your health-care provider, your national and local public health authorities on how to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.
- d) Follow the host government's website https://www.canada.ca and https://www.ontario.ca for the latest update on Corona-virus.
- e) Please meticulously follow Hygiene advices of the World Health Organization (WHO) to remain safe.
- f) Bangladesh Consulate General in Toronto will continue its' regular consular services. However, to ensure safety, it is advisable to minimize your movement and therefore, please visit <u>www.bdcgtoronto.ca</u> for online services followed by postal delivery.
- g) As advised by the Canadian Government as well as by the Bangladesh Government, avoid mass gatherings until the situation gets better.



- h) Stay at home if you begin to feel the symptoms (fever, cough and breathing difficulty) of Coronavirus, avoid contact with others and immediately consult doctor or visit health care provider.
- i) For any urgent queries, you may email to the Bangladesh Consulate General at mission.toronto@mofa.gov.bd or call @ +1-647-812-2791.
- j) In the wake of the rapid spread of Coronavirus, Bangladesh Government has taken the following decisions to minimize the risk, which you may please take note of:
 - k) With effect from 00:00 hrs. of 16 March 2020 until 31 March 2020, passengers originating from Europe, except UK, will not be allowed to enter Bangladesh.
 - 1) On-arrival visa in any Bangladesh port will remain suspended for two weeks (16-31 March 2020) for incoming passengers of all countries for entering Bangladesh.
 - m) Visa will be issued for urgent travels only, upon receiving a medical certificate from a competent health care provider in Canada sating that the applicant found negative with CVID-19 test. Those who have already been granted visa will have to produce a similar medical certificate at entry point in Bangladesh.
 - n) Those who will henceforth be arriving in Bangladesh from other coronavirus affected countries will be placed under quarantine for two weeks.
 - o) All Bangladesh-bound flights, originating from the countries that have suspended incoming flights from Bangladesh, will remain suspended. Diplomats and their family members and holder of laissez passer posted in Bangladesh will be exempted from this restriction.

Sincerely.



Bangladesh Consulate General, Toronto