



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Department Heads, Program Directors, Program Administrative Assistants, Residents, RDoS & PGME Staff

**SUBJECT:** 2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE  
TRAVEL BY RESIDENTS FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

**FROM:** Dr. Anurag Saxena, Associate Dean, PGME

**DATE:** March 13, 2020

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The following decision made by the senior leadership of our College of Medicine is based upon certain principles (safety for all and limiting the spread), evolving recommendations and decisions being made at other PGME settings in Canada.

- Effective immediately (March 13, Friday) all electives and mandatory out of province travel (both out-going and incoming) within Canada and internationally are cancelled. Those currently on electives outside of the province need to be notified by the individual programs before they can return, upon completion of the elective, and must adhere to all Government of Canada decisions regarding travel within the country until June 30, 2020.
- Effective immediately (March 13, Friday) all other work-related travel (e.g.; conferences, courses, other meetings) both nationally and internationally is cancelled, until June 30, 2020.
- For **personal travel**, please follow decisions and recommendations from provincial and national bodies (Government of Canada, Government of Saskatchewan, Public Health Agency of Canada and the Office of the Chief Medical Health Officer, Saskatchewan).
  - Self-isolation and self-monitoring and quarantine measures have been outlined in a separate memo issued jointly by USask PGME and RDoS.

**Educational Impact:**

- All efforts will be made by the programs to ensure that learning experiences are provided locally (either by changing schedules or other learning experiences) until such time that travel can be resumed safely.
- It is possible in rare cases that this restriction may require an extension of residency training, but all efforts will be made to ensure acquisition of competencies within the original time frame.

The [PGME office](#) will work with all residents, programs and staff during this time and are available to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Dr. Anurag Saxena  
Associate Dean, Postgraduate Medical Education  
University of Saskatchewan