

Paramedic Services Week

May 24-30, 2020

Pandemic: Paramedics on the Front Line

STAY INFORMED

There are many sources of information on health, more specifically on COVID-19 these days: websites, television shows, magazines, news media, social media such as Twitter, Facebook, etc.

Consistency and accuracy are imperative to communicating the right message.

Some suggestions to educate the public at large at communicating this might be:

- 1) Communicating sources of information considered reliable in your provincial and local municipality; encourage to visit and say up-to-date as it changes regularly.
- 2) Communicating "myth-buster" sources of information. Dispel misinformation. Circulate different "myths" throughout the day or week to help educate the "real" information versus "myth".
- 3) Publicize the things paramedics are doing differently, what and why:
 - For the safety of the public (health system), i.e. community recovery
 - For the safety of the paramedic responding, i.e. PPE
 - For the safety of the patient, i.e. treatments
- 4) Social Media Polls on "Did You Know" facts about COVID-19 to engage followers to be educated and learn the latest.
- 5) Use sources of Posters, Signage, FAQs, Info-Graphics to communicate where to find reliable information. Numerous examples are available at the WHO website or on federal and provincial COVID-19 Websites. (link to 'stay informed_media' document)
- 6) Encourage making health decisions on reliable and creditable information. Use secondary sources to validate if you are unsure.

