



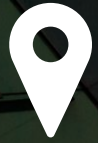
BOMA Canada: Deploying Rapid COVID-19 Testing in Your Building





Please contact relevant public health authorities for medical/public health advice. Neither BOMA Canada nor the individuals presenting herein are providing such advice.





Welcome from BOMA Canada



Victoria Papp
Director, Strategy and Innovation
BOMA Canada



Meet Our Experts



Christopher Johnstone

Assistant Deputy Minister at Health Canada



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Manager, Emergency Management at Oxford Properties Group



Rapid Tests for COVID-19 Screening in the Workplace

April 2021



Agenda

1. Background on rapid testing
2. New initiative to increase availability of rapid tests for workplace screening
3. Next steps
4. Questions and answers

Goal

Dramatically increase rapid screening in workplaces across Canada, as an additional mechanism to reduce transmission and outbreaks

Background

- The Government of Canada has purchased over 40M point of care tests and distributed over half to provinces and territories. Most of these tests have been deployed in long-term care facilities, schools or for outbreak management
- The Government of Canada is putting in place additional contracts with vendors for additional supply of rapid screening kits to meet Canada's public health needs
- Acceleration and expansion of the deployment of rapid tests for Covid screening was recommended by experts:
 - [Testing and Screening Expert Panel's first report](#)
 - [Industry Advisory Roundtable on COVID-19 Testing, Screening, Tracing and Data Management](#), and
 - PHAC's [Interim Guidance on the Use of Rapid Antigen Detection Tests](#)
- Workplace screening has been extensively piloted by organizations in several provinces
- Some provinces have released guidance regarding screening and who can administer a test, with Ontario recently authorizing self-collection

Rapid tests and the benefits of screening

What are rapid antigen tests?

- Easy to administer
- Now with nasal swabs
- Results in 15 minutes
- Most effective at identifying those with high viral load and high transmission potential
- A negative result cannot be interpreted as a negative diagnosis
- A positive result is confirmed with PCR test
- Those with symptoms always referred for PCR test



Regular screening (e.g., 2x/week) helps organizations to:

- Better protect their employees
- Better protect their customers / clients
- Contribute to community safety by reducing community spread
- Add an extra layer of protection in addition to other public health measures



How does the initiative work in the early phase?

- **The Government of Canada** will:

- work with industry associations to prioritize intake organizations
- supply rapid screening tests at no cost (tests may also be available from relevant provinces and territories)

- **Organizations** will be responsible for:

- setting up rapid screening program
- administering screening
- collecting and reporting on usage data
- following all relevant provincial/territorial and local public health regulations and guidance

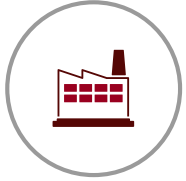
Step-by-step rapid screening program implementation booklets are available from [Communitech](#) and [Creative Destruction Lab](#)



CREATIVE DESTRUCTION LAB
Rapid Screening Consortium

How will workplaces be assessed for suitability?

In early stages, will need to prioritize participants as supply and programs ramp



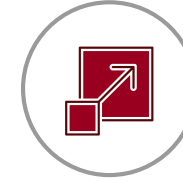
Critical industries

Those deemed essential services and functions by Public Safety Canada ([Source](#))



Close-contact workers

Employees whose roles fundamentally involve interactions with fellow employees and customers



Organizational readiness

Prepared to start screening immediately and scale to their employee bases quickly

*Focus will be on **national organizations** best supplied federally vs. from multiple provinces, or organizations unable to secure supply from relevant province/territory*

*Additionally, will consider geographic **hot spots**, the **diversity** across geographies and sectors (for-profit and non-profit) and benefits for **vulnerable populations** (e.g., Indigenous groups)*

Rapid screening implementation considerations



Identify Human Resources requirements (program coordinator, testing personnel, etc.)



Procure necessary PPE and sanitation supplies for testing personnel (masks, face shields, etc.)



Consult local public health regulations and other requirements (e.g., who can administer tests)



Establish data infrastructure (for reporting, security, privacy)



Develop communications plan for roll-out and engage employees

Non-exhaustive – for discussion purposes only

Who can administer a rapid test?

Province	Trained layperson can administer?	Self-administration?	Ability to start workplace screening without approval?
<u>Ontario</u>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<u>Alberta</u>	Yes*	Yes	No
<u>Saskatchewan</u>	Yes	Yes	No
<u>Nova Scotia</u>	Yes	No	No
Others	No	No	No

* However, a healthcare professional must oversee the workplace screening program

As of April 6, 2021 – please consult provincial guidance directly

Next steps

- **Associations** will work with members to identify organizations that meet the early phase prioritization criteria
- **Associations** are asked to collate information and provide to Government of Canada
- Government of Canada will contact **organizations**
- In the meantime, **organizations** are encouraged to:
 - leverage the collective resource available on the [Government of Canada website](#)
 - understand relevant local, provincial and territorial public health regulations
 - review playbooks such as those by [Communitech](#) and the [Creative Destruction Lab Rapid Screening Consortium](#) to understand what is entailed in setting up a screening program

Information required to support requests

- Number of critical workers in close-contact settings that will be screened
- Nature of workers to be screened (in terms of their level of contact, their criticality, vulnerability, etc.)
- Locations at which screening will occur
- Requested number of tests for first month
- Confirmation that arrangements have been made for administration
- Confirmation that the requesting organization is not receiving the requested tests from relevant provincial or territorial governments

Moving forward

- As the supply of tests increases, organizations may be able to order directly from vendors
- Screening continues to add an additional layer of protection in addition to vaccinations, PPE, etc.
- New technologies on the horizon may facilitate self-administered / home kits and potentially reduce the costs of regular testing

- **Questions and Answers**



Health Canada and the Public
Health Agency of Canada

Santé Canada et l'Agence
de la santé publique du Canada

Canada

Thank You



Oxford Properties Rapid Antigen Testing Program

Neil Mathews, CPP, PSP, PCI

Presented to BOMA Canada

May 4th, 2021

Why are we doing this?

- ✓ Partnered with Creative Destruction Labs and Health Canada to locate asymptomatic people in the Canadian workforce and remove them to prevent an outbreak
- ✓ Keep Oxford Properties employees and contractors as safe as possible – "another tool in the tool kit"
- ✓ Peace of mind for all involved - What's in it for me?

What you need to make the Clinic run

- Rapid Antigen test kits
- Additional personnel to run the testing centers
- Additional hardware such as laptops, printers and iPads
- Biohazard bins
- Biohazard removal services
- Additional Sanitation products
- Timers
- Signage





BOOTH # 2

COVID-19 rapid antigen test self-administration



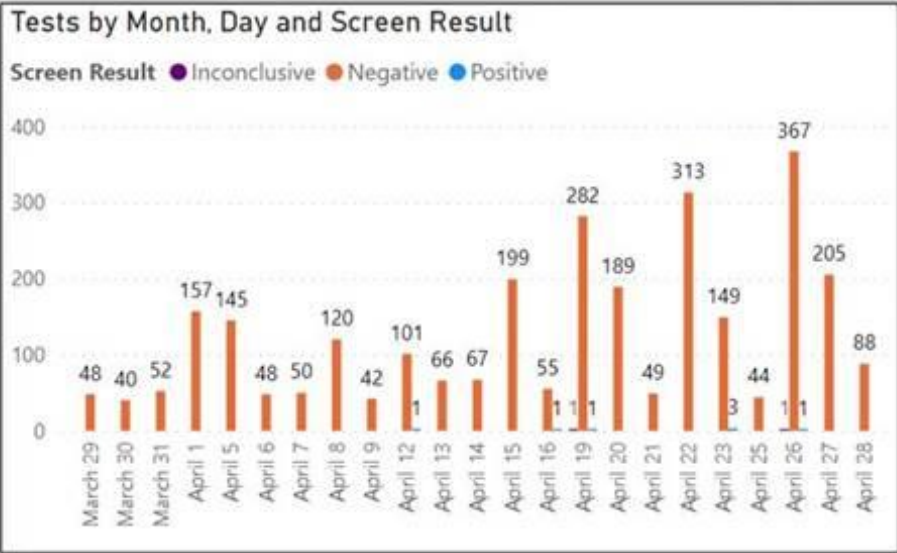
OMERS/Oxford Antigen Testing Tracker

Created by the OMERS Business Continuity Team

Participants 1084 Unique Count	Screen Count 2885 Antigen Tests	Positive Screen Count 7 Cumulative	Inconclusive Screen Count 2 Cumulative	Negative Screen Count 2876 Cumulative	Sites Reporting 9 Cumulative	Spoiled Tests 24 Across all sites
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Screen Result

- Inconclusive
- Negative
- Positive



Average Tests per Day

125.43
Tests

Median Results Reporting Time

22.81
Mintues

Date Range

3/29/2021 4/28/2021

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Date Last Refreshed



Question & Answer

Please use the Q/A box
functionality on the webinar



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