

Ministry of Labour Levels 5 & 6, Tower C, International Waterfront Centre, #1A Wrightson Road, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago Telephone No: (868) 625-8478 Email: <u>labour-communications@gov.tt</u> Website: <u>labour.gov.tt</u>

Monday, October 26th, 2020

Media Release

<u>Ministry of Labour Launches its 'Combat COVID-19 Toolkit Series' E-</u> <u>Sensitisation Campaign: A Guide to Managing COVID-19 across</u> <u>Workplaces in Trinidad and Tobago</u>

The Ministry of Labour (MOL), with the assistance of the Ministry of Health (MOH), the Chief Personnel Officer (CPO) and the Ministry of National Security (MNS) developed the 'National Policy Guidelines on Preparing Workplaces in Trinidad and Tobago for COVID-19'. These guidelines are geared towards minimizing the spread of the coronavirus by keeping employees safe and well in the workplace.

Following the implementation of this National Workplace Policy, the Ministry of Labour (MOL) is undertaking an E-Sensitization campaign titled '**Combat COVID-19, Toolkit Series for Employers/Employees.**' Using its New Media Platforms, the Ministry will be publishing a twelve (12) part infographic series, which reflect and highlight the procedures which should be implemented and adopted by employers and employees who are working from offices across Trinidad and Tobago, during this global Pandemic.

The COVID-19 virus continues to pose many challenges worldwide, resulting in significant social and economic impact on countries. It is hoped that the development of this National Workplace Policy will effectively guide employers and employees on; how to prevent the spread of the virus in the workplace, effect the continuity of business operations while managing the spread of and response to the effects of the virus.







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To this end, the key areas explored in the 'Toolkit Series' include: **employers' communication and operational strategies**, health and safety measures within the workplace, employee leave provisions in the Public Service, the organisational response plan to treating with a case of COVID-19 in the workplace, employee re-entry into the workplace and care and support for employees.

The Honourable Stephen Mc Clashie M.P., Minister of Labour labelled this E-Campaign as a critical one, urging employees, employers and trade unions to be responsible and do their part to secure our nation's most valuable resource; our human resources. He reiterates that we are uncertain of the tenure of this virus and thus, our individual behaviour will determine how and for how long the virus will impact our work and family lives. He emphasized that it is therefore imperative, to take heed to these guidelines in order to safeguard ourselves, families and workplaces from the effects of COVID-19.

Members of the public are invited to visit the Ministry of Labour's website at <u>labour.gov.tt</u>, click the <u>Resources</u> tab, then proceed to the <u>Policies</u> tab in order to access the National Policy Guidelines document.

Please see the direct link to access the document: <u>National Policy</u> <u>Guidelines on Preparing Workplaces in Trinidad and Tobago</u>

Persons can log on to the Ministry's social media pages: <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Linkedin</u> for daily postings of "Toolkit Series Tips" which will run the course of the next two (2) weeks, beginning from Monday October 26, 2020.



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Employees/Recognized Majority Unions and Employers who require assistance in applying these guidelines are advised to contact the Conciliation Advisory and Advocacy Division (CAAD) at <u>conciliation.mol@gov.tt</u> or call 299-0300 ext. 2043 or 2124.

The Ministry of Labour continues to do all that is necessary to ensure the health and safety of the Nation's Employees while promoting Decent Work, Industrial Peace and Opportunity for All.

For further information, please contact:

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