COVID-19 Timeline

1/7: Scientists in China announced the discovery of a new coronavirus. 1, 5

1/9: The first confirmed death from the virus occurs in China. 2, 4

1/13: First case outside of China confirmed in Thailand. 2, 4

1/14: WHO notes there may be limited human-to-human transmission of the coronavirus. 2, 4

1/15: The Public Health Agency of Canada activates the Emergency Operation Centre to support Canada’s response to COVID-19. 1

1/23: Quarantine of greater Wuhan, China Area Commenced. 6

1/24: First confirmed incidence of human-to-human transmission outside of China was documented in Vietnam. 7

1/25: Canada confirms its first case of COVID-19 related to travel in Wuhan, China. 3

1/30: Novel Coronavirus declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). 4

2/11: WHO gives the disease the new name COVID-19. Additionally, the virus itself is named SARS-CoV-2. 8

2/15: First death confirmed outside of Asia - France. 9

2/27: First confirmed case of human-to-human transmission in Canada. 10

2/28: SARS-CoV-2 was detected for the first time in tears and conjunctival secretions (pink eye) of a patient. 11

3/9: First COVID-19 related death reported in Canada. 1

3/11: Covid Characterized as a Pandemic by the WHO. 4

3/13: Canada advises Canadians to avoid all non-essential travel outside of Canada until further notice. 3

3/16: Canada advises travellers entering Canada to self-isolate for 14 days. 3

3/18: Canada implements a ban on foreign nationals from all countries, except the United States from entering Canada, Canada-U.S. border closes to all non-essential travel, and redirects international passenger flight arrivals to four airports in Calgary, Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal. 1

3/20: Number of confirmed Canadian cases surpass 1,000. 3

3/30: Canada states that all passengers flying in Canada will be subject to a health check prior to boarding. 1

4/19: Confirmed cases in Canada surpass 20,000. 1

4/2: COVID cases surpasses 1 million worldwide with over 50,000 confirmed deaths. 3

4/2: Canada surpasses 10,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19. 1

4/15: COVID cases surpass 2 million worldwide. 3

Citations:
6. @ChinaDailly (22 January 2020). “Public transportation such as bus, subway, ferry and long-distance bus in Wuhan will be temporarily closed...” (Tweet). Archived from the original on 1 February 2020. Retrieved 8 February 2020 – via Twitter.

Produced by the University of British Columbia, Division of Continuing Professional Development. Revised April 22, 2020. Visit ubccpd.ca/course/safe-surgical-care for more information.