

Subject: Precautionary measures being implemented due to coronavirus outbreak in China

Students,

Due to the outbreak of a new strain of the coronavirus originating in China, the University is taking a proactive approach to ensure faculty, staff and students travelling to and from China are aware of, and take steps to mitigate, their risk of contracting or spreading the virus.

An information bulletin has been prepared which is to be provided to anyone who is arriving at the University from China. The bulletin provides information on activities that may have increased their risk of contracting the virus and steps they should take if they have symptoms potentially indicative of the disease. This bulletin is available in English and Mandarin on the Health, Safety and Wellness (HS&W) website at: <https://www.uregina.ca/hr/hsw/Coronavirus/Information-sheet-for-students,-faculty,-and-staff-arriving-from-China.pdf>

The University of Regina is aware of rumours circulating on social media indicating that there may be individuals who recently travelled from Wuhan, China who are staying on campus.

The University has looked into this and can confirm that these rumours are unfounded.

As a precautionary measure, effective immediately the University has cancelled all centrally organized and funded trips to travel to China scheduled in the next three months (all of the individuals involved in these trips have been advised through email).

Also effective immediately all travel to China (including previously approved travel that has not yet occurred) by faculty, researchers, and students that the University is funding or sponsoring will require the Dean's approval of the Travel Authorization Request Form and must include a risk mitigation plan, that addresses the precautions identified by the Government of Canada. These precautions can be found at: <https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories/pneumonia-china>.

The Government of Canada has issued an Avoid All Travel advisory for to the Province of Hubei, China due to the imposition of heavy travel restrictions in order to limit the spread of the novel coronavirus.

While personal travel is at the discretion of the individual, you are strongly encouraged to pay attention to the travel advisories.

At this time the Government of Canada is indicating the overall risk to Canadian travellers and to Canada is low but they are continuing to monitor the situation as it is evolving rapidly.

Officials in China have restricted travel to and from at least 17 cities in the Province of Hubei and banned travel to the province and the situation continues to evolve rapidly.

The University is continuing to monitor the situation and will provide updates as required.

Sincerely,

John Smith
Associate Vice-President, (Student Affairs)