# **Buyers - viewing homes**

You may be asking yourself: Is it safe to look at homes now? Will I be exposed to the coronavirus? How do I stay safe, keep my family safe, and prevent spread?

Everyday we are being updated with the extent of the current Coronavirus pandemic. Where are those with the virus located. Is it in this community or nearby? What precautions should I take? New information on how virus is spread, incubation periods etc.

#### IN GENERAL

NOTE: Always check with your health professional for definitive advice.

#### THE RISK - MECHANISM OF SPREAD

- The coronavirus is most likely spread from touching surfaces contaminated with the virus and then touching your face (mouth, nose, eyes) and introducing the virus to your body.
- The virus "lives on" surfaces for several days unless removed by disinfection. Touch surface, then touch face introduce virus.
- The virus can also be spread by direct contact (within 3-6') with a person infected with the virus and they cough / sneeze and "dispense" virus particles. Breath them in introduce virus.

#### WHAT TO DO:

- Wash hands frequently (count of 20 seconds)
- Avoid touching your face.
- When hand washing is not possible, use hand sanitizer gel or wipes
- More social distancing (3-6 ft) when possible
- Avoid handshakes and hugs (elbow bumps are in or a hand wave)
- Wipe down surfaces before and after you touch them
- Don't touch surfaces in general when you don't have to.

If you are a buyer and want to look at homes, take some precautions to minimize exposure to the coronavirus (or any virus).

## Make a Kit (preparedness)

- Prepare a "kit" to keep with you at all times. Assemble and place in large Gallon plastic bag and then in a "tote" (over shoulder) so it is easy to access while looking at homes
  - Antibacterial wipes
    - For your hands
    - For cleaning surfaces (e.g. lysol wipes)
  - Antibacterial sanitizing gel (e.g. purell)
  - Hand cream (the gels and wipes have a drying out effect)
  - Gloves
  - Mask (probably won't be needed, but keep handy)
  - Keep antibacterial wipes or hand sanitizer with you at all times. Prepare small "packages" to make it easier to carry around and hand out.
  - Keep garbage bags to dispose of used wipes etc.

### Before viewing a property:

- Clean your hands with antibacterial wipes gel
- Avoid touching any surfaces, but if you need/want to Be sure to Wipe any surface you are about to touch
  - Door Knobs
  - Handles
  - Buttons
  - Cabinet knobs

- Cabinet surface
- Toilet flush handle
- Faucets
  - Flyers/brochures
- Avoid picking up brochures or flyers. Your agent will provide you with a printout of the listing.
- Your agent will pre open doors for you and any cabinets, closets etc you may want to see the interior of.
- It is especially important to stay together while looking; do not let children wander by themselves (parents please carry your child or hold their hands throughout viewing so they don't "touch things" to keep them and you safe
- WHEN DONE VIEWING A HOME:
  - Each person should clean hands with antiseptic wipe or gel.
- Parents to clean children's hands thoroughly with antibacterial wipe or gel PLEASE NOTE: WHILE YOUR AGENT MAY HAVE SUPPLIES WITH THEM TO PROVIDE TO YOU, PRODUCTS ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY AND DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN, SO IT IS BEST YOU PREPARE YOU OWN "KIT" AND TAKE WITH YOU.