



**18 March 2020**

### **COVID-19 update from the Red Meat Profit Partnership**

You will be aware of the disruption COVID-19 is causing to many aspects of life in New Zealand.

RMPP are keeping a close eye on the developments of the coronavirus pandemic, we want to inform you of how we are assessing any potential risks and our response to these.

There are RMPP events including workshops, courses, group activities and meetings that you are involved in. Below is some important information regarding the running of these.

On 16 March, the Government advised that public events or mass gatherings where 500 people or more in close proximity should be cancelled. At this stage all RMPP events will go ahead until notified otherwise - given they fall below the 500 people threshold. We are keeping an eye on further changes made to public events and mass gatherings and how these may affect any RMPP scheduled events.

For the latest updates, information and advice on COVID-19 from the Ministry of Health click [here](#)

### **Key messages for facilitators - how to minimise the risk of getting sick at an event**

1. Do not attend any event if you are feeling unwell.
2. Do not attend any event if you have been in mainland China, Iran, Italy or the Republic of Korea (excluding airport transit) in the past 14 days.
3. Practice good hygiene always. This means:
  - Covering coughs and sneezes with disposable tissues or coughing/sneezing into your elbow
  - Disposing of used tissues appropriately in a bin
  - Washing hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water and drying them thoroughly, or using hand sanitizer:
    - Before eating or handling food
    - After using the toilet
    - After coughing, sneezing, blowing your nose or wiping children's noses
    - After touching public surfaces
4. Implement social distancing for those who are unwell (keep at least two metres away).
5. Limiting alcohol and drug use (this may affect your ability to adequately follow the advice above).

### **Key actions for facilitators**

Facilitators should not attend an RMPP event if they are feeling unwell or have been at any of the locations noted in point two above. Please inform RMPP if you are feeling unwell and are not able to attend the event. If you are a facilitator of an Action Group, please also contact the primary contact farmer of your group/s.

If you are a facilitator that is scheduled for an event and you are feeling well, you are under no obligation to travel. If this applies to you, please let RMPP know as soon as possible that you are not willing to travel. If you are a facilitator of an Action Group, please also contact the primary contact farmer of your group/s.



Facilitators that have restricted travel conditions placed on them by their employers should inform RMPP of this as soon as possible. If you are a facilitator of an Action Group, please also contact the primary contact farmer of your group/s.

#### **RMPP contact information**

- Farm Business Transition and Succession and Aspiring to Farm Business Management and Ownership workshops, call Alicia Carroll on 027 565 7887
- Lead Facilitator workshop, call Diane Falconer on 027 275 9372
- RMPP Action Network, call the Customer Support team on 0800 733 632

#### **What facilitators should communicate**

For those facilitators that communicate with participants prior to facilitating an RMPP event please include the key messages noted above in any communication. Its important participants are aware of these key messages before attending any RMPP event.

The key messages noted above must form part of the health and safety briefing given at the beginning of the event.

#### **Facilitators must check the venue**

Please ensure that hand washing facilities including soap (and hand sanitiser where possible) along with paper hand towels and/or tissues are available. At most venues these should be supplied. If they aren't and you need to purchase, please do so. The purchase of these items can be claimed as an expense - remember to provide receipts for any purchase made.

At seated events please allow for extra space between participants to enable them to implement social distancing.

It is recommended that all communal surfaces are disinfected with antibacterial wipes or household cleaner before and after an event.

#### **Other**

If you are using the services of a caterer, please request extra vigilance with hand hygiene stressing that food should not be prepared by anyone feeling unwell.

Please download and print copies of the Ministry of Health, Protecting Yourself and Others Against Covid-19 poster, [click here](#) to access. This needs to be displayed at the entrance and near the toilets at the venue. Venues should have these displayed already but please ensure you have some available if they aren't.

You will appreciate that the coronavirus pandemic is an ongoing situation. We are remaining up to date with the latest advice from the Ministry of Health and will inform you of any changes that may affect the running of RMPP events.