

*The following information was provided by Nova Scotia Public Health. For the purpose of this document essential workers is considered employed in the fish harvesting (captain/crew), aquaculture, and seafood processing sector (plant workers/managers/supervisors, etc.)*

When possible, people should only travel in vehicles with people they live with. However, there may be circumstances where they need to carpool with co-workers to get to work. In these situations, two or more essential workers (employees in the fishing industry) can travel in the same vehicle, but should maintain physical distance as much as possible in the vehicle.

If the only option is to go with a coworker to work, physical distance as best as possible in the vehicle (i.e. sit in the back). Try to limit the number of people in the car and space out as much as possible. Ensure that the person driving is not driving multiple people on a regular basis. This should only be done in rare circumstances.

Wearing a non-medical mask is another way of covering your mouth and nose to prevent your respiratory droplets from contaminating others or landing on surfaces. A mask can reduce the chance that others are coming into contact with your respiratory droplets, in the same way that the recommendation to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues, or cough and sneeze into your elbow, not your hand, can reduce that chance.

It may be beneficial for employees who are carpooling together to have a letter from their employer saying who they are and where they work, just in case anyone questions them travelling together. A sample is attached.

Your Logo/Company Name

## **Carpooling Authorization Letter**

Subject: JOB CONFIRMATION - ESSENTIAL WORKERS IN THE FISHING INDUSTRY

To whom it may concern,

Following the measures of the Government of Canada that have been put in place regarding COVID-19, as well as those of Provincial Government, here is a joint letter for those employed in the Nova Scotia fishing industry (seafood processing, fish harvesting and/or aquaculture) as an essential service worker, as outlined in the Government of Canada's Guidance on Essential Services and Features in Canada during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

By this letter, I (fill in the name of Manager/Owner/Captain) confirm that (fill in the name of Employee) is employed in the fishing industry as essential services worker and requires carpooling to travel directly between home and work for work purposes.

The above named individual is part of a carpool that includes other individuals (please check):

- Same crew of a fishing vessel
- Same household
- Same processing plant

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Manager/Owner/Captain