### **APPENDIX B: Continuum of Actions**

## 1. Continue to practice conservation and appropriate use

Adherence to best practices for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) conservation and appropriate use remain critically important to our collective response to COVID-19. PPE is one of several lines of defence against COVID-19. A range of conservation strategies (e.g., engineering, and administrative control actions) also should be implemented where possible.

Prospective recipients who receive PPE from the province's pandemic supply, must ensure their practices are in line with the <u>PPE guidance available on conservation and appropriate use</u>, as developed by the Chief Medical Officer of Health for the health sector. The Ontario Health guidelines on <u>Optimizing Supply of PPE</u> provide guidance on PPE use and conservation strategies to ensure long-term sustainability of PPE, including N95 equipment, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Health care workers who care for cohorted residents with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 should follow extended-use recommendations, as appropriate for their setting. Consider the following key principles:

- Cohort residents with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, assign designated teams of health care providers, and batch your resident encounters to help conserve the use of PPE.
- Extend the use of PPE for as long as possible, but once wet, damaged, soiled, or removed (e.g., to eat or drink), or after exiting the resident care area, PPE should be changed.

#### 2. Train an in-house fit tester who can support ongoing fit test needs

As the provincial stock of PPE will continue to vary subject to global supply constraints, local demand, and disease prevalence, it is highly encouraged that long-term care homes identify individuals to become designated fit-testers and participate in train the trainer education, which is delivered by Public Services Health & Safety Association (PSHSA) - <a href="https://www.pshsa.ca/courses/training-the-fit-tester-for-respiratory-protection-distance-learning-training-program">https://www.pshsa.ca/courses/training-the-fit-tester-for-respiratory-protection-distance-learning-training-program</a>. Trainees must have access to a fit testing kit to conduct the training and to deliver fit testing to staff. This option allows ongoing fit testing to be conducted in-house in the event that the availability of respirators shifts to new models.

Masks for the purposes of fit testing can be requested through the <a href="PPE Request Form">PPE Request Form</a>. Please use the correct link for the West Region versus the common link for the Toronto, Central, North and East Regions. The province will send respirators for fit testing that are in sustainable volumes of supply, so that, if required, homes can request product from the province for regular use. Note: expired masks might be sent to long-term care homes to support Fit testing.

# 3. Engage an external fit tester

Please see below for a list of organizations in Ontario that provide fit test services. This is not an exhaustive list. Employers that require fit testing for their staff are encouraged to contact a vendor listed below to schedule an appointment for this service. N95 respirator supply to support fit testing may be requested through the critical PPE escalation portal - <a href="https://ehealthontario.on.ca/en/healthcare-professionals/digital-health-services">https://ehealthontario.on.ca/en/healthcare-professionals/digital-health-services</a>. Please note that the cost of fit testing is the responsibility of the employer. These costs are eligible expenditures for Prevention and Containment funding.

# Fit test service providers

| Organization                              | Phone Number                                      | Email if Applicable            |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 Contact Safety Training &               | 416-822-5925                                      | info@1contactsafety.ca         |
| Consulting                                |   |                                |
| Act First Safety                          | 416-283-7233                                      | safety@actfirstsafety.ca       |
| Active Training Solutions                 | 905-767-8447                                      |                                |
| ACUTE Environmental                       | 519-747-5075                                      | info@acuteservices.com         |
| AEC Safety                                | 519-746-3518                                      |                                |
| Algonquin Safety Training                 | 705-223-0120                                      | Admin@algsafety.ca             |
| Barantas Inc.                             | 1-855-FUL-SAFE                                    | info@barantas.ca               |
| Bullivant and Associates                  | 289-779-6760                                      |                                |
| Canadian Safety Group                     | 905-321-9901 or 905-401-<br>0088                  | info@canadiansafetygroup.com   |
| Hamisco                                   | 519-652-9800                                      | sales@hamisco.com              |
| Hazmasters                                | 877-747-7117                                      | connect@hazmasters.com         |
| HeartZap                                  | 1-866-764-8488                                    |                                |
| Help Safety Services                      | 905-821-8928                                      | help@helpsafetyservices.com    |
| Industrial Education Cooperative          | 519-383-1222                                      |                                |
| Industrial Safety Trainers                | 1-800-219-8660                                    |                                |
| KMC Safety Solutions                      | 519-521 2744                                      | info@kmcsafetysolutions.ca     |
| Major McGuire                             | 519-944-9999                                      | info@majorsmcguire.com         |
| Northern Safety Solutions -               | 705-524-8189                                      | info@nss4.com                  |
| Occupational Health & Safety Consultants  | 519-758-0146                                      | admin@ohsconsultants.ca        |
| Restoration Safety                        | 416-799-9614                                      |                                |
| Rubicon Safety                            | London: 519-551-9383;<br>Burlington: 416-999-9304 |                                |
| Safety Guys Ottawa                        | 613-549-6941                                      |                                |
| Spark Safety Solutions                    | 844-267-8600                                      | office@sparksafety.ca          |
| STS Group Inc.                            | 416-635-7800                                      | info@stscanada.com             |
| TGH Safety Consultant                     | 519-383-7655                                      | ccooper@tghsafety.com          |
| Workplace Law Consulting                  | 416-930-6180                                      | wpl@workplacelawconsulting.com |
| Workplace Safety & Prevention Association | 905-614-1400                                      | customercare@wsps.ca           |
| Worksite Safety Compliance Centre Inc     | 866-756-5552                                      |                                |