



## **March 4, 2020**

The MPI Cascadia Education Conference WILL take place as planned, March 8 - 10, 2020 in Bend, OR. CEC staff are closely monitoring the situation for potential impacts for our attendees.

We are following the guidance from worldwide health organizations and experts. We are fully committed to taking appropriate precautions to provide a safe and healthy environment for attendees. We encourage our attendees to work with us to help make this happen.

CEC staff will execute the following best practices to help attendees stay healthy and to reduce exposure and risk:

- Provide sanitizing and disinfection materials for general attendee use.
- Increase cleaning and disinfection across high-volume common areas.
- Monitor recommendations from the relevant health authorities including the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the local government and city officials.
- Encourage attendees to adopt some best practices in order to act in their own best interest and in the best interest of their fellow attendees.

Attendees are asked to manage their own preparedness and behavior as well:

- If you are feeling feverish or coughing prior to arriving at the conference, please stay home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Maintain social distancing by keeping at least 3 feet of distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.
- Disinfect personal items such as laptops and cellphones that you use often.

You may also want to:

- Consider the adoption of a no-handshake policy.
- Reduce or eliminate business card exchanges.
- Be considerate of fellow attendees and exercise good judgement.
- And most of all, if you are feverish or coughing, please stay in your room and please notify event staff ( [info@mpioc.org](mailto:info@mpioc.org) ) so that they're aware of your condition.
- If at any time you have questions about your health, and symptoms please consult your healthcare provider. If you do not have a doctor and have concerns about current symptoms contact your local board of health.

Given that the CDC and governing health agencies have not issued travel restrictions into Oregon or from cities or locations any of the attendees are coming in from, the standing conference cancellation policy for the conference will remain in effect. Should travel restrictions change between 3.3.20 and the open date of the conference, we will reevaluate the policy and update accordingly

**Cascadia Conference 2020 Cancellation Policy: Should you have a pre-existing medical condition that prevents you from traveling to the conference at this time, please contact [info@mpioc.org](mailto:info@mpioc.org).**

**If you have any questions, please contact us at [info@mpioc.com](mailto:info@mpioc.com).**

**COVID-19 Links and Resources:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/ea/novel-coronavirus-hubei-province-china.html>