



## **BETTER FIT = BETTER PROTECTION**

### **N95-Type Masks (Respirators) Can Provide a Better Fit, Providing Better Protection from COVID-19**

The PRDTU will soon receive a shipment of N95-type masks (also known as “respirators”) for distribution to members who want to use them. These masks were donated to the BCTF by a mask manufacturer. Please look for an email from the PRDTU with information on how to request some of these masks. Masks will be shared between members who request them and the PRDTU is expecting about 300 masks.

According to the Public Health Agency of Canada:

***“In general, while non-medical masks can help prevent the spread of COVID-19, medical masks and respirators provide better protection. No matter which type of mask you choose, proper fit is a key factor in its effectiveness.”***

In medical settings, N95 masks (respirators) are fit tested to ensure proper fit. Fit testing is not available in most non-medical settings. But even without fit testing, most N95 masks provide a better fit than other kinds of masks (such as cloth masks). Given this, the PRDTU continues to request that SD52 provide teachers and other staff with N95-types masks for use at work.

Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/about-non-medical-masks-face-coverings.html>

## **Prince Rupert District Teachers’ Union**