

PO Box 484 • Gretna, NE • 68028 • 402-540-1904 • http://netasite.org • executivedirector@netasite.org

To whom it may concern:

There is a significant amount of information circulating about the coronavirus (COVID-19) in the media and on social media, along with concerns of advanced spreading of the virus at events in the United States and here in Nebraska.

To date, NETA has not received any indication from any governmental agency, federal or state, that there is a need or requirement to cancel any events connected to the NETA Conference or to even significantly alter the NETA Conference plan of events.

At this time, the NETA Conference will go on as planned, and we are excited to bring you one of the best lineups in our conference history.

Please know that we do not make this statement lightly or with a lack of regard for those with concerns over the spread of COVID-19. We do, however, feel obligated to follow the recommendations of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, which are tasked with providing guidance on public health, safety and contagious disease ramifications for organizations like NETA.

While we are excited to see everyone later this month, we also want to be mindful and responsible in reminding you to follow these simple steps that are proven to significantly reduce the spread of not only COVID-19 but also the flu and the common cold:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. At a minimum, cough or sneeze into your elbow to avoid transmitting fluid or particles into the open air.
- 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. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are unavailable.
- Wipe down surfaces (devices, device keyboards, tablets, phones, etc.) in your booth, your bag or your session regularly.

We understand that our venue, CHI Health Center Omaha, has several portable hand sanitizing stations throughout the conference center, as well as publicly available restrooms for hand washing.

Please contact us via email at <u>executivedirector@netasite.org</u> or at 402-540-1904 should you have any questions or specific concerns.

Sincerely,

Julie Moore NETA Executive Director

Important Resources for the Latest COVID-19 Updates:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx https://visitnebraska.com/coronavirus-information