



Newborn Screening Bulletin 2016-8

August 27, 2016

UPDATE ON CANADA POST LABOUR DISPUTE

Canada Post has announced a 72 hour notice of a strike, which will likely cause a surge in packages being processed through Purolator. As we saw in July, this may result in increased transit times for NSO samples.

NSO has been working with Purolator to design a contingency plan for packages containing newborn screening samples, to reduce or eliminate these delays.

Purolator will be creating pre-addressed, pre-paid, stick on, Chain of Signature (COS) waybills that will be sent to your site to be used on packages destined for NSO. You will be provided with enough of these COS waybills to last for 4-6 weeks during the labour disruption. If the labour disruption lasts longer, NSO will send more COS waybills at that time. Use of these COS waybills will allow the packages to be prioritized and tracked more effectively during transit.

When using these COS waybills:

- You do not need to create a separate waybill, these labels are created for shipments to NSO only.
- If you do not have a scheduled pickup at your site, you will still have to call 1 888 SHIP-123 or log into Purolator.com to schedule a pickup.
- The COS waybill label must be signed by the sender. In addition the Purolator driver will need to sign the waybill on pickup.

COS waybills will be printed and shipped to sites over the next two weeks. **Please let us know if your shipping contact person has changed over the last few months.** We will send individual updates to each site so that you know when you should expect to receive your COS waybills. In the meantime, until COS waybills are available, you can continue to ship using the current process. NSO will monitor packages in transit. In the event of a Canada post labour disruption and increased package volume at Purolator, delays in the transport of newborn screening samples may occur when using the regular process.

Thank you for your involvement in ensuring Ontario's newborns get timely access to newborn screening.