

# High River Cargill Meat Packing Plant Outbreak

# Cargill: Summary

- 2000 employees + contractors (number not yet quantified)
- Suspended operations this afternoon
- Workers (+ household members) low-wage; exclusion is difficult
- >474 confirmed/probable cases; 2/3 employees/contractors, 40% High River
- Highest risk is within households
- Another concern is household-to-community transmission
- Most workers do not speak English as a first language; low health literacy

**Single largest public health threat in Calgary Zone & Alberta**

# Cargill: Public Health Measures

- Public health follow-up
- Epidemiologic intelligence
- Testing: mandate to test all (symptomatic & asymptomatic)  
Cargill employees → High River testing centre

*Testing strategy in development AHS, Cargill, Union (UFCW 401)*

# Significant needs require significant resources

- PCNs (Primary Care Pathway & **Enhanced Primary Care Pathway**)
- Newcomer agencies CCIS & FCIS, AIMGA (Alberta International Medical Graduates Association), Action Dignity, Eritrean COVID-19 response group etc.
- Municipalities: Calgary and High River
- Isolation hotels: Funded by GoA
- AHS ZEOC: Cargill Task Force has been formed (~12 person)nel
- Testing Centres High River testing centres

# The process

- PH continues to do contact tracing
- Handovers to PCNs for regular assessments **(adjusted for Cargill-associated patient complicating factors)**
- Referral to newcomer organizations (CCIS is intake) for social supports (e.g., CERB, food, counselling, etc.) and isolation support

Thank you!

Questions?