

April 20, 2020

Campbell River and District Association for Community Living – COVI-19 Update.

I hope that this update finds you all well. This past week, not much has changed in the way we have adjusted our programs to accommodate this new way of living and doing business.

In our Adult Services, the non-essential programs are still closed, and a few individuals are continuing to be supported where absolutely necessary. Our group homes are running as usual, with no cases of COVID-19 in the case of residents and staff. The day program staff will back-fill when they are called on, but in most cases, they have been oriented at the house they will fill in, and have not been called yet to back-fill. Our Semi Independent Living program is still providing limited support to those out in the community. They are checking in daily with folks, doing laundry, groceries, and banking – but keeping up with the social distancing.

Our Children's Services Programs are continuing to get their tele-therapy up and running. They've had to develop policies, procedures, and consent forms, in order to provide service through Zoom. The staff have been doing a lot of webinars, and have been contacting families via telephone and email for the time being. The CAS program did a group Zoom session and will continue to do this so the youth can get a bit of socializing through this venue. The whole team has had a couple of Zoom meetings to update each other and stay connected.

Ironwood Place, Palmer Place and Lion's Place are all running smoothly, with the residents being mindful of the social distancing. The managers and staff at each of these housing locations are doing an exceptional job at ensuring they are clean and safe for those living there.

Our Admin team is doing what they need to do, either from home, or at the office. There are some duties where they need to be in the office, so I've scheduled everyone so there isn't more than three people in the building at the same time. Hart and I are working in the office on alternate days, just in case one of us gets the virus, we will still have two management staff who will be able to sort out the organization. Michelle is trying to work mostly from home, coming in when she absolutely needs to, but is managing to do most duties from home. She has also taken the initiative to get acquainted with Zoom and has done one session with the college students through this platform. She is setting up a session where the Admin team can have a Zoom meeting this Wednesday. Kevin set up an Uber meeting with the Board's Finance Committee last week to go over projected budgets for this fiscal year. He has arranged with our auditor to do our annual audit in May. Our AGM will be postponed to either late June or July. The Board is unsure of how they will do this meeting at this time – either some form of social distancing in a venue where this is possible, or it could possibly be through a platform such as Zoom. I have been attending numerous conference calls with the BC CEO Network and CLBC which includes Provincial updates of how our sector is making out, and what direction we need to be taking from the

advice of the PHO. We are doing well in that regard, and I would like to thank each and every one of you who have followed the direction by your supervisors. Again, I am ever thankful to our dedicated staff in all areas of the Association who are doing their part to keep this organization running as smoothly as possible in this crisis.

We are following the advice of our PHO very closely, and we will see where the Province is in regards to us re-opening our programs again. We will follow their advice when the time comes, and all will be notified. For those programs currently closed, they will remain so until April 30th. Next week I will send out another update as to where we are, and what we are doing.

On a side note, unfortunately our 1153 Greenwood office was broken into a couple of weekends ago, and an iPad was stolen. We have had to make the regrettable decision to put bars on our windows in order to deter future break-ins. Sadly our building is visited regularly by people outside of business hours, as we can see with our security cameras. We are very aware of the stigma of having bars on windows, but we need to protect our assets and the information we have stored at this building.

Thanks to All!

Adrienne Monks
Interim Executive Director