

Dear Residential Care Workers,

The health of residents in group homes is a priority for the Community care Facilities Licensing program. At this time, the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve. The Community Care Facilities Licensing program is working closely with the BC Centre for Disease Control and the Public Health Agency of Canada to monitor the national and provincial COVID-19 situation.

The BC Ministry of Health and the BC Centre for Disease Control have created a BC COVID-19 symptom self-assessment tool to allow you to determine whether further assessment or testing is needed.

HERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COVID-19.

PREVENTION: Wash your hands, cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, and practice physical distancing: stay two metres from others, stay home as much as possible, socialize online instead of in person, and limit trips to buy supplies.

SYMPTOMS: Reported signs and symptoms include: fever, coughing, and/or difficulty breathing. If you think you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 you can try this quick, online self-assessment tool: <https://covid19.thrive.health/>

EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS: If you think you have mild symptoms of COVID-19 and the online self assessment tool indicates testing is not recommended please stay home, and self-isolate for 10 days after the initial start of your symptoms. Testing is not recommended. After 10 days, if your temperature is normal and you feel well, you may return to your routine activities. Coughing may persist for several weeks, so a cough alone does not mean you need to continue to self-isolate beyond 10 days. If respiratory symptoms worsen, you may need to seek medical attention call 8-1-1 or your health-care provider. If symptoms are severe, call 911 or contact your nearest Emergency Department.

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QUESTIONS: If you have health concerns, call HealthLink BC at 8-1-1. For non medical information about COVID-19 Call 1-888-COVID19 (1-888-268-4319) or text 604-630-0300 from 7:30 am to 8:00 pm.