

memo



To: Agency-Wide/NACL Board of Directors
From: Graham Morry, Executive Director
Date: June 10, 2020
Re: CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19 UPDATE

Current Situation

BC's numbers of COVID-19 continue to improve, with the total number of provincial cases being 2,669 as of yesterday afternoon. Vancouver Island's count remains steady at 130, with the three fully-recovered epidemiological cases added to our case numbers last week – and thankfully there are no known active cases on the Island at this time.

Staying the Course

I understand it is difficult to maintain our protocols while the rest of the world is beginning to open up, but it is essential that we remain diligent over the summer to ensure we've done all that we can to keep NACL safe.

As the Provincial Health Office makes recommendations through Dr. Henry over the summer, we will look closely at our services to determine if there are areas where we can relax some restrictions.

Risk Assessment/"Phase Two" Recovery Plan

CLBC has recently released a document that provides guidance as to how we can assess risk on a case-by-case basis, and make decisions based on criteria agreed upon by all relevant stakeholders.

Randy summarized this initiative as follows:

The BC government is moving into "Phase Two" of the COVID-19 response, which looks to slow the spread of the virus while keeping people safe, balancing the physical and mental health considerations with the need for folks to return to their daily lives. To support this, NACL will be collaborating with CLBC to develop our own "Phase Two Recovery Plan." By gathering input from persons served, families, caregivers, and staff, we will revise Person Centered Plans with folks to assess the level of community involvement that people can safely engage in, considering risk factors and corresponding mitigation strategies. For our most vulnerable, it may make sense to stick to the Phase One scenario; for others, a carefully-planned Phase Two re-introduction will be possible. Our goal at NACL will be to offer maximum services across all programs, while continuing to ensure the safety of everyone involved. We will provide updates ongoingly as we work to realize our Phase Two plan.

This will mean different approaches for our various services. Our residential services are well-positioned already to make adjustments as things open up, but our community-based services (such as Actions) will require considerable planning due to our inability to have groups congregating, and community-based activities difficult due to physical distancing requirements. Employment Services are also impacted by these issues, further complicated by the closure of many businesses. This re-envisioning of our services will take time and collaboration, but will be essential as we move forward.

In Conclusion...

Our next report will be in two weeks, unless there are any significant changes to report. As always, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns – we're in this together.

E-mail: graham.morry@nanaimoacl.com

Office line: (250) 741-0224, ext. 260

Cell: (250) 713-4117