

# memo



**To:** Agency-Wide/NACL Board of Directors

**From:** Graham Morry, Executive Director

**Date:** April 29, 2020

**Re:** CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19 UPDATE

## Current Situation

The preceding week has seen a provincial increase in COVID-19 cases, with 34 more diagnosed in the last day for a total of 2,087 cases. The majority of new cases have been connected to long-term care and corrections facilities on the Lower Mainland. Vancouver Island now has 120 positive cases of COVID-19.

NACL's situation has remained static, with the following updates...

## Precautionary Testing

Due to COVID-19 related symptoms, four staff have been tested and all tests thankfully have come back negative.

We recently had a resident at Jingle Pot Home become ill with non-COVID like symptoms. As a precautionary measure, containment protocols were implemented and, as per their doctor's instruction, a COVID-19 test was ordered which has since come back negative. The person is recovering well in isolation.

We feel internal processes worked well in this situation, and we will continue to assess the effectiveness of all our newly-implemented protocols in preparation for an infectious outbreak.

## Risk Management Plan

As part of our annual agency governance, we produce a report that identifies potential upcoming risks and mitigation strategies to address them. We are currently drafting our 2020/2021 Risk Management report, which will examine the risks posed by COVID-19 and our strategies to deal with them. Once completed, the plan will go to the NACL Board for approval, then will be distributed.

## Provincial COVID-19 Funding

Last Friday (April 24, 2020), CLBC announced they will be providing an additional \$35.6M to assist with COVID-19 related expenses. As an example, this will help service providers with PPE and staffing costs. In addition, Home Share Providers will receive financial help to address additional costs they are facing due to a reduction in other supports.

## Provincial Conference Call for Front-Line Workers

The BC CEO Network and CLBC are co-hosting a province-wide conference call for all front-line workers on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, starting at 9:30 a.m. The intent is to thank everyone for their service, and to respond to concerns people may have re COVID-19. Minister Shane Simpson and Dr. Daniele Behn Smith will both be on the call.

As the questions for the call have to be submitted in advance, Randy Humchitt (Deputy ED) collected them on our behalf yesterday to send in one message by today's deadline.

Specific details re connecting to the call itself were forwarded by Randy via e-mail earlier this afternoon.

**In Conclusion...**

I am always available if you have any questions or concerns – please don't hesitate to contact me anytime.

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