

Executive Director's Update – September 2020

[A MESSAGE FROM CLBC - BEING PREPARED FOR A 2ND WAVE OF COVID IN B.C.](#)

In recent weeks B.C. has begun to see an increase in the number of daily reported new cases of COVID-19 in the general population. Therefore, it's a good time to think about the best approach to focus on what we can do to plan and prepare. It is important to remember that despite significant worries at the outset of this pandemic, the Social Services Sector has weathered the first stages with very few cases. Of those few cases, most have safely recovered from moderate symptoms at home or in care, and there have been minimal hospitalizations.

The great work you have all done to keep those we serve safe has put us in a better position to respond to a possible second wave. We have more knowledge of the COVID-19 virus, we've built a strong collaboration with the public health office, B.C.'s regional health authorities, and the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, and we have greater access to PPE than we did at the start of this challenging time.

Our response continues to be guided by public health experts, with key sources here:

- [Ministry of Health and Provincial Health Officer Updates](#)
- [BC Centre for Disease Control Information on COVID-19](#)
- [Guidance to Social Service Providers for the Prevention and Control of COVID-19](#)

Should agencies or home sharing providers have someone fall ill with the virus, we want to reassure you that you are not alone. CLBC will be there to help agencies mobilize resources to ensure individuals, families and home sharing providers have what they need.

Here are the key steps you should follow to respond to any COVID incidents:

1. If an individual, support worker or home sharing provider is concerned they have COVID-19, you should immediately call 8-1-1 to assess next steps including whether one needs to isolate or get tested.
2. In the event of a positive test, your local health authority will give your agency and/or home sharing provider direction. They will work with you to understand who needs to isolate, how to protect those who may have been exposed, and how to safely provide ongoing care.
3. In the event of an incident, make sure you communicate with affected individuals, family members and staff. Explain what has happened and steps being taken.
4. Alert your CLBC Liaison Analyst. They are available to help with any operational challenges and will stay in regular contact to ensure you have what you need.

EMPLOYEE REFERRAL PROGRAM

If you refer a new employee, KSCL hires them and they complete their 3-month Trial/Probationary, KSCL will pay the KSCL employee \$50 for each referral. We have realized that our existing staff can broaden the reach of KSCL's efforts to attract new employees. Our employees can recognize someone who may be a great asset and fit for our organization, therefore we want to recognize those efforts and encourage those referrals.

Please watch for the new Policy & Procedure – Employee Referral Program.

In September we paid \$50 to 2 of our existing employees for successful referrals. Thank you so much.

EMPLOYEE PPE BUDGET

We have heard your concerns about purchasing specific types of masks to accommodate your preferences/or health needs as a health worker needing to wear masks. KSCL will continue to supply masks if needed, however we now have budgeted \$50 / per employee / per year for re-useable masks that you can submit receipts for. These reimbursements will be paid from the main office.

SAD TO SAY GOOD-BYE

Russell Grunerud, who lived at KC House, sadly passed away Aug 20, 2020 at age 60. Russell was a long-term resident of KC House. Many of KSCL Staff have a story to tell or a good memory so we hope to celebrate and share these at a later date. We will all miss Russell's humour and friendly smile. Rest in peace Russell.

STAFF UPDATES/CHANGES

Congratulations to the following staff that have been confirmed in new positions. This is from the period of August 14, 2020 – September 2, 2020

Postings Awarded:

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| • Sable Moyah | Aug 21, 2020 | TFT @ Roalshary |
| • Lisa Milligan | Aug 26, 2020 | TFT SRCW @ Prince House |
| • Brianne Fenton | Aug 28, 2020 | TFT CO |

Kathleen Elias, Executive Director, KSCL