

17 March 2020

Dear people we support and families,

We wanted to thank you for being diligent and taking precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 during this time. We know that these are hard times, and that many of the things that matter most to you will be effected. Our first priority will continue to be the health and wellbeing of the people we support, their families, our staff, and our collective communities.

Given provincial and federal measures have escalated again, we have to take additional precautions as well.

Adding on to yesterday's measures, we will be doing the following to help prevent possible entry or transmission of COVID-19:

- Campus Friends and Best Buddies are cancelled until further notice
- Passport services will continue in a limited way, and will be assessed on a case by case basis
- Supported Independent Living services will continue, primarily by telephone and online contact
- EmployMEnt Options services will be assessed on a case by case basis, with guidance by the employer
- All CLGW sites, including administrative buildings, group homes, and day sites are closed to the public
- All volunteers and non-staff roles are suspended until further notice
- Pre-authorized visitors, including immediate family, service providers and contractors, will be screened before entering any CLGW location
- All group access to buildings will be cancelled until further notice (i.e. Special Olympics, sports groups, line dancing, etc.)
- Anyone requiring a bus pass reload for April 1 must contact Administration by Thursday March 19, with their request

Some families have expressed their interest in bringing their family member home. Those family members will not lose their spot in our residential program. More details about self-isolating your family member at home, will be coming in the next few days.

As we have limited face-to-face meetings, whenever possible we will be communicating by phone or electronic means. This includes in-the-community support.

With yesterday's announcement regarding the closure of day programs, we are re-deploying trained staff to residential programs. This will ensure that the people we support are receiving the support they need, while having the flexibility and capacity for staff to feel confident should they need to self-isolate.

Right now, our staff are in constant contact with managers and supervisors about self-monitoring. We're employing every means available to us to ensure the health and wellbeing of the people we support, our staff, as well as friends and families and our community.

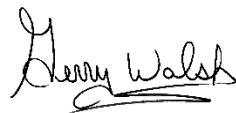
At this time, we will reassess all changes to service on a weekly basis.

Thank you for your continued support through this time. We are able to provide the services we do because of your diligence, and support with ensuring the health and wellbeing of everyone involved.

We will continue to keep you informed of any new developments, and you can read the latest at: clgw.ca/covid19

Regards,


Laura Hanley
Executive Director


Gerry Walsh
Board President