

24 March 2020

Dear people we support and families,

We heard yesterday that the province of Ontario is going into lockdown, with all non-essential services being mandated to close as of 11:59pm tonight. Understandably, this may have raised questions for you if the service you and your family member are receiving will be affected.

With the release of the essential services list, residential, Supported Independent Living and Passport services are all included as essential services. Given that day services were already suspended, yesterday's announcement will have no additional impact on services at this time.

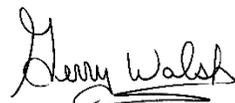
The Ontario government also announced a \$200 million in social services relief funding. While we wait for details on how this is going to be distributed, the media release is available here: <https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/03/ontario-protecting-the-most-vulnerable-during-covid-19-crisis.html>

Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health confirmed over the weekend, the first regional case of COVID-19 in Wellington County. That case is recovering in hospital, in Mount Forest. This morning we learned of the first confirmed case in Guelph, at St. Joseph's Health Centre. We understand that these cases being closer to home, you may be feeling anxious and concerned. CLGW will continue to take as many preventative measures as possible to ensure the health and wellbeing of the people we support and their families, our staff, and our community. We are also in consistent communication with Public Health, as well as community partners, so that plans and procedures are in place should someone we support become ill with COVID-19.

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