

7 April 2020

Dear people we support and families,

Throughout this pandemic, information has changed rapidly. Each day brings new reasons for concern, new preventative measures, and a need to be flexible to ensure our health and wellbeing. We have all been active participants in preventing the spread of COVID-19. Thank you for your resilience, patience and resolve in the face of the unknown.

Last week, we received from the [Ministry of Health COVID-19 Guidance: Group Homes and Co-Living Settings](#). Those guidelines are helping to bring clarity and new direction to how we ensure the health and safety of the people we support and our staff. For example, those guidelines gave us greater clarity on pre-screening for staff. So, we have enhanced our pre-shift Screening Checklist to include additional measures to assess the health and wellbeing of staff before coming on shift. More will come for staff, but we wanted you to know that we are consulting as many resources as we can, and will continue to adapt and be agile as new information becomes available.

We shared yesterday about an order enacted by the Government of Ontario. This order offers more decision making authority for service agencies like CLGW, and is [available here for you to read](#).

Also available for you to read, is the communication sent to us in [follow-up to the emergency order enacted by the Government of Ontario](#). It outlines that while the order gives service agencies more authority, we are all encouraged to continue to work collaboratively. Keeping lines of communication open, asking questions, and working together to ensure the people we support are our first priority is essential during these times.

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

Gratefully,

  
**Laura Hanley**  
Executive Director

  
**Gerry Walsh**  
Board President