

Subject: COVID-19 Updates - April 17, 2020
Date: Friday, April 17, 2020 at 10:20:22 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Ernie Baatz
To: Ernie Baatz
Attachments: image001.jpg

CLBC Conference Call for Individuals and Families – Today at 11:15am

Please join **Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, David Galbraith, Deputy Minister, Dr. Daniele Behn-Smith, Deputy Provincial Health Officer, and Community Living BC Board Chair Michael J. Prince and CEO Ross Chilton** for an update to self advocates and families on services and supports during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

When: Friday, April 17, 2020

Time: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

How to call in:

Vancouver – 604-681-0260

Elsewhere – 1-877-353-9184

Participant code: 37568#

Special Instructions: Due to the large number of participants, please start dialing in at 11:05 a.m.

Speakers will provide updates and respond to questions we have recently received. If you have a question you would like us to consider for this call, please email us at CLBCInfo@gov.bc.ca and put the following text in your subject line: **April 17 Teleconference Question**. Email your questions by 4 p.m. on Thursday, April 16. Due to an anticipated high volume, all the questions may not be able to be answered on the call, but we will endeavour to respond to as many as we can.

Vancouver Coastal Health – Virtual Townhall Meeting

On Friday, April 17, people living in the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority region can have their COVID-19 related questions answered, through a virtual townhall presented by the Government of British Columbia.

Please join local MLAs Bowinn Ma and John Yap, along with Chief Medical Health Officer Dr Patricia Daly and CEO Mary Ackenhusen for Vancouver Coastal Health as they discuss COVID-19 in BC and answer questions from British Columbians. Watch live on the Government of BC Facebook page on Friday, April 17 at 7:15-8:15 PM PDT: <https://www.facebook.com/events/564059514229655/>

Submit your questions in advance or you may also submit them via comment during the Facebook livestream: <https://feedback.engage.gov.bc.ca/997313?lang=en>

Find out when other COVID-19 Q&A Virtual Townhalls are happening here:

<https://feedback.engage.gov.bc.ca/997313?lang=en>

Leading with Compassion

“I’ve been talking a lot about the importance of us being kind and supporting each other... We’ve heard some

– anecdotes mostly – of people getting frustrated and angry and I think we have to realize that this is often a manifestation of anxiety and fear that we have, not knowing about the future, not knowing what’s going to happen with our jobs, not knowing what’s going to happen with our families, being affected by not being able to see our loved ones. This is a time when we really need to stand together, to support each other, to respond to anger with kindness.... We need to continue to support each other in our communities to make it through this. We need to be kind, and we need to be calm, and to help each other to stay safe.” – Dr. Bonnie Henry, BC Provincial Health Officer. April 15, 2020.

Every day, British Columbians tune in to hear Dr. Bonnie Henry’s updates on the state of Covid-19 in our province. Her appeals to the better parts of our humanity have struck a chord, urging us to set aside our differences and come together in this time of crisis. How we treat each other, the kindness and compassion we show each other, will have as much or more impact on the course of this pandemic than any imposed restrictions.

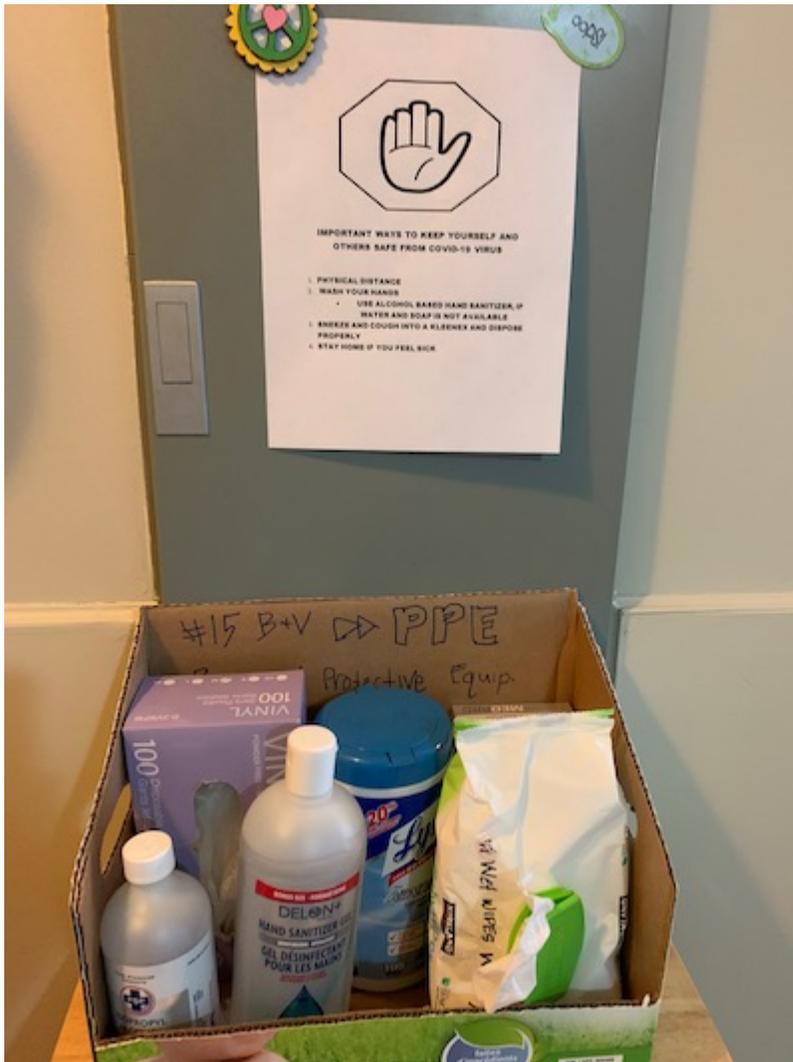
We’ve been paying close attention to Dr. Henry’s approach as we communicate Spectrum’s message to our teams. While we are of course focused on getting all the necessary supplies and information to people, it’s the strength of our relationships, the teamwork and support we show each other that’s going to get us through this. If people feel supported and are united in achieving a common goal, they will be more confident and empowered, and this in turn builds our capacity to manage this crisis.

We also take from Dr. Henry’s words the reminder that outward expressions of frustration and anger are often a manifestation of anxiety. Anyone who has taken Mandt with Susan Wilson will recognize the parallels with Dr. Henry’s message. Many people we know have difficulty coping with changes to their daily routine. To have one’s routine changed abruptly and without warning is extremely stressful. We’ve been so impressed by how well everyone is coping with the new reality. We’ve been so impressed by the compassion shown by our staff and caregivers, the recognition that each person is going to respond differently to these new pressures and if someone is expressing frustration or anger they need our support, not our judgment. This goes for all of us, not just the people we support but our team members, families, colleagues – this is about all of us.

Strong leadership during times of crisis requires decisive action and clear communication. It also requires humility and compassion. It requires us to let go of our need for control. It requires everyone to decide for themselves how they can make a difference and contribute as leaders in their own right. We are grateful to everyone from our staff and supervisors to the families and individuals who have embraced new leadership roles in so many ways – from helping source supplies to doing deliveries to checking in with people and making sure they’re ok. Each of you is making a difference. Your acts of kindness and compassion are the acts of leadership we need so desperately right now. Thank you all.

Update on Arriving and Leaving – Keeping Safe

We wanted to share an example of how people are washing their hands as they arrive and as they leave, and how the home has set up a station at the front door to make it easy to do. How are you making it easy to keep your hands clean?



Get Outside but Stay Close to Home

What have you been doing to stay healthy and happy for the past four weeks?

Are you looking for more ideas? We are hosting a zoom call for anyone interested in talking about new home activities and ways to connect with each other, while staying safe.

Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 10am. You can sign up for the zoom here by registering and we'll send you the link and the password:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/keeping-active-at-home-tickets-102845106482>

Have a quiet sunny weekend!

Susan Stanfield

Director, Communications and Quality Assurance

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Ernie Baatz

Executive Director

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