



1. Get Vaccinated – Register at the BC Get Vaccinated website
 - a. <https://www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/s/>
 - b. If you have questions about the vaccine, talk to your doctor.
 - c. Employees can get 3 hours pay for each of their vaccine appointments.
 - d. Please let us know if you need assistance getting a vaccine for yourself or your family members. All people in BC ages 12 and over are eligible for vaccination now.
2. Stay home if sick
 - a. For employees, if you are not feeling well, call 811 and follow their instructions.
 - b. For managers, maintain your relief pool so that services can be maintained when a staff needs to stay home.
 - c. For people we support and families and friends, please stay home if you are not feeling well. A social occasion can always be rescheduled.
3. Respect personal space
 - a. Two metres (six feet) is still a good guideline for maintaining a safe distance from people.
4. Clean your hands – we are keeping sanitation stations at the office entrances and at people's homes, so you can clean your hands easily when you arrive.
5. Follow Guidelines
 - a. Universal Precautions Policy – Guidelines that that promote a safe and healthy work environment. Spectrum personnel will be expected to follow these guidelines at all times both for their own protection and for the protection of individuals receiving services.
 - i. <https://sscl.sharevision.ca/public/PolicyDirectory/General%20Policies/31.0.UniversalPrecautions.pdf>
 - b. Communicable Disease Prevention Policy – We will follow Public Health Guidance to prevent the spread of communicable diseases.
 - i. <https://sscl.sharevision.ca/public/PolicyDirectory/General%20Policies/30.0.PreventionCommunicableDiseases.pdf>

6. Check before you travel – lots of people are taking time off now. We are asking employees to coordinate time off with their managers so that services can be maintained. Right now, vacations in the Okanagan and Cariboo will be difficult due to the forest fire situation.
7. Consider people's situations and comfort levels – keep in touch with family and friends, but consider safe ways to visit that respect people's comfort levels.
8. It's always safer outdoors
 - a. Visit with friends at parks or on patios – the open air environment will give you better recirculation and fresh air than meeting inside.

Office Update

As we gradually return to normal, our office routines will also begin returning to normal.

1. The office will be open from 9am to 4pm
2. Please call to arrange a meeting space so that we don't end up with too many people gathering at once.
3. Please sign in when you arrive at the office – sign out when you leave.
4. Please continue to wear masks when you are moving around inside the office. You can take your mask off when you are sitting in one place.
5. We will continue with office / PPE supplies being picked up on Wednesdays, Receipts reimbursed on Fridays.
6. Let us know if you have any questions.

Vaccination Status

On July 8th, 2021, the Provincial Health Officer announced new guidelines for visitors and staff in long term care settings:

New public health requirements around vaccinations will add protections for people in long-term care. Effective July 19, new requirements to better protect seniors will include:

- A PHO order will require all long-term care and seniors' assisted living facilities to provide public health with information on all residents, staff, personal service providers and volunteers so their immunization status can be determined.
- Workers who are not fully vaccinated will be required to wear a mask at work and be tested for COVID-19 regularly using rapid tests.
- Volunteers and personal service providers entering long-term care settings must be fully vaccinated.
- Masks are required for visitors who are not fully vaccinated. Masks will not be required for visitors who are fully vaccinated, except when travelling through common areas.
- Each site will continue to maintain a sign-in list for contact tracing purposes and actively promote adherence to all infection prevention control protocols.
- <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0124-001331>

These rules do not apply to community social services, but agencies can establish their own requirements for reporting of vaccination status and these seem like reasonable safety guidelines to

keep workers and the people we support safe. We are developing our own guidelines and would welcome your feedback when we have a draft ready for review. For now, please continue to wear masks when you are inside and not able to maintain two metres (six feet) distance from others.

Ernie Baatz

Executive Director

Spectrum Society for Community Living

Express yourself. Build your network. Find your voice.

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Be Calm, Be Kind, Be Safe

Unceded Coast Salish Territories of the Musqueam,
Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.