

Subject: Spectrum COVID-19 Update - March 21 2020

Date: Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 2:46:58 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Ernie Baatz

To: Ernie Baatz

Good afternoon;

We have been gathering information from many sources over the past week, to ensure we are doing our best to keep the people we support and our staff and their families safe and healthy.

From Illinois Easter Seals, here is a great plain language set of images to explain why we are doing things differently now and for the next few months:

<https://sscl.sharevision.ca/public/Files/COVID19/SocialStoryCovid19.pdf>

Training on Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs):

Some of your teams are already familiar with using Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) – gloves, masks, gowns. For those teams that are not familiar or don't routinely use PPEs, now is a good time to provide some basic training to your team on how to use these items. Even if staff are already using gloves, please review the proper protocol for putting on and removing them – including handwashing before and after, and safe disposal of gloves. Masks and gowns are not routinely used, but some teams are being asked to start using them as a precaution. Again, we need to ensure that staff are properly trained in the use of these PPEs. Here is a short video demonstrating how to put on full protective equipment: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxdaSeq4EVU>

There are also two posters to show putting on the equipment (Donning):

https://sscl.sharevision.ca/public/Files/COVID19/COVID19_MOH_BCCDC_Donning.pdf

And taking off the equipment (Doffing):

https://sscl.sharevision.ca/public/Files/COVID19/COVID19_MOH_BCCDC_Doffing.pdf

As Judy's email noted, she is available to assist with sourcing and ordering PPEs and other supplies. Many thanks to Judy, and to Jeriah for his contribution to our Covid-19 prevention efforts! We have some very experienced staff and managers at Spectrum who are also available to answer questions or assist with training people in the use of PPEs.

We have added this information to our Exposure Control Plan and posted an update on the website:

<https://sscl.sharevision.ca/public/Files/COVID19/SpectrumExposureControlPlanCovid19.pdf>

We have deliveries of supplies coming to the office next week (masks, paper towel, toilet paper and hand sanitizers, among other things), so let us know what you need and we'll get it to you.

Thank you to everyone who is watching the news, following the instructions from our health professionals and keeping yourselves, your families and the people we support safe and healthy.

A reminder to look for the best local information on how to keep safe:

The BC Centre for Disease Control: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19>

We would like to remind you of the keys to preventing the spread of COVID-19:

- · Wash your hands regularly
- · Don't touch your face
- · Keep two metres – six feet – away from other people.
- · Stay home if you don't feel well.

We post these updates on the Spectrum website – click the COVID19 Update button on the home page. Please write or call if you have questions.

Ernie Baatz

Executive Director

Spectrum Society for Community Living

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