

MEMO

To: All CLNB Members and Families
From: Sherry Carnevale, Executive Director
Subject: Addendum to the "Guidelines for Visits Version 2 – September 2020"
Date: October 8, 2020

As the province continues to experience a second wave of COVID 19, Community Living North Bay is in the process of establishing a dedicated indoor space for essential visits to occur. Currently, each program has established guidelines for indoor visits to safely occur within the person's home. This is based on no community transmission of the virus and based on the absence of active cases in our community. This is assessed on a daily basis.

In preparation for possibly having to restrict visitors to residential programs, we are in the process of setting up a designated location for **essential visits** to continue. An **essential visitor** is a person who is necessary to maintain the health, wellness and safety of a congregate living resident. Although we recognize the importance of family members being present in people's lives, the agency is still left with the responsibility of keeping our residents, our staff and in extension the families of both groups as safe as possible. We continue to encourage the use of technology when possible to connect with family members. If or when we are forced to implement closure to visits we will be evaluating factors on a daily basis. These factors will include many different possibilities which will be relevant to different location's needs. We will be forced to make decisions on a day to day basis. This situation has forced everyone to plan for the worst and hope for the best. Factors like active cases, staff resources, government mandates will all play a role in our decisions. We will try to be as proactive as possible and will communicate our situation regularly.

To access the "essential visitor location", appointments will need to be arranged ahead of time with the program manager to ensure the location and staffing is available to facilitate the visit. All directions in the "Guidelines for Visits - Sept 2020" document continue to apply (ie cancellation of visits, mask wearing and other PPE, physical distancing etc.

Once again on behalf on Community Living North Bay we want to thank families for their understanding and continued support through this challenging time.



Sherry Carnevale
Executive Director