

CLBC UPDATE ON RECOVERY PLANNING

Plain language summary of [May 13 message from Ross Chilton](#)

What do we mean by COVID-19 recovery planning?

This means thinking through all the different things that need to be in place to safely and gradually change how agencies will provide supports and services during the next stage.

Your actions have made a difference

We were all happy to hear that the spread of the COVID-19 virus has gone down and plans have begun to reopen our province. You can [read Premier John Horgan and Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry's announcement here](#).

There have been some cases of COVID-19 among the people we serve, support workers and families. But these numbers are low, and no new cases have been reported for several weeks.

We are grateful for the steps you took to follow the health guidance of the Provincial Health Officer.

The government approach to re-starting the province

The government approach to re-starting the province will focus on:

1. continuing to slow the spread of the virus so the healthcare system has the ability to support people who become ill
2. keeping people safe
3. the physical and mental health of people
4. the need for people to go back to work

Public health experts say we can start to have up to 60 per cent of the kinds of contacts with others that we used to have. The government calls this stage two. This needs to happen in a careful and planned way to make sure we keep people safe.

CLBC's approach to services in stage two

CLBC is aware that everyone is different in how they are feeling about moving into this new stage of the pandemic. Some people may be very worried about being in contact with more people again. Others will be eager to get their services and routines back as quickly as possible. Many individuals we serve are at greater risk of getting very sick if they get the virus. This is also true of some families, home sharing providers and staff.

All this means we need a plan based on guidance from the Provincial Health Officer, WorkSafeBC, and the unique needs of individuals and families. We also need a plan that works together with service providers and with other agencies involved in individuals' lives.

Services cannot immediately return to what they were

We know that physical distancing has been hard for the people we serve. We know many families have taken on extra caregiving duties. But services cannot immediately go back to normal. We have asked service providers to keep services as they are now until they receive further guidance and they have a strong plan.

CLBC is making plans for how to keep services safe in stage two

CLBC is using core guidelines [announced by the government and Provincial Health Officer on May 6 and found here](#).

This guidance will be ready by the week of May 25 for our service providers. Once service providers get this guidance they can start planning to adjust their services in a way that is safe for everyone.

We will also organize teleconference calls to give you updates along the way. Stay tuned for information posted [on our CLBC COVID-19 website](#).

We are grateful for everything you've done to slow the spread of COVID-19. We won't be able to immediately go back to the way it was before COVID-19, but we will follow the direction of the Provincial Health Officer and work carefully with you and service providers. We will keep working together to succeed.