

COVID-19 Update for Child Care Operators/Providers/Partners

April 29, 2020

Edition 1



Ministry of
Children and Family
Development

Thank You!

Provincial Health Officer [Dr. Bonnie Henry](#) thanked [Early Childhood Educators](#) and support staff who are assisting front-line health care staff and other essential workers. The full [archive of Dr. Henry's daily media briefings](#) are available online.

"I also want to recognize the early childhood educators, the K-12 teachers, and the educational assistants who have really stepped up around the province and are in classrooms and daycares to support our healthcare workers and other essential workers."
- Dr. Bonnie Henry

New Look

The Childcare BC website has recently added updated [COVID-19 support resources and valuable information](#), taking into account the important questions you have and the resources you need to ensure a healthy and safe place for parents, children, providers and staff.

Wash Your Hands

There is no doubt British Columbians are living in extraordinary times with a rapidly changing environment due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We want everyone to remain safe. Here's a fun reminder to children on [best practices for washing their hands](#).



Upcoming Health & Safety Teleconference

We understand the health care sector continues to have questions related to the health and safety of children and staff. Please join us for a Q&A on Wednesday, April 29 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. with Dr. Patricia Daly, Chief Medical Health Officer for Vancouver Coastal Health.
Phone: 1-877-353-9184 ID: 80299#

Cleaning Supplies

MCFD has distributed a shipment of 20 1-litre bottles of hand sanitizer to open facilities with 100 or more licensed spaces. As this sanitizer is an alcohol-based liquid, it can also be used for cleaning surfaces. These centres are encouraged to share these resources with other providers in their community, if they are able. Review the list of the [providers that received hand sanitizer](#). We will continue to work on supporting child care providers to gain access to additional cleaning supplies.

Information Updates

As of April 28, 88% of active child care facilities have signed up for [Temporary Emergency Funding](#) (TEF). Of those signed up, 62% remain open and together offer a total of 59,749 child care spaces for families who need care across the province.

There have been modifications to the list of daily essential service workers identified within the healthcare sector. It includes those who provide health care and services, including mental health and addictions treatment. A [complete list of these positions](#) are now available.

The B.C. government has also established an [Emergency Relief Support Fund](#) for children and youth with special needs and their families. The fund will provide a direct payment of \$225 per month to eligible families over the next three months (to June 30, 2020). This funding is in addition to more flexible policy guidelines for Children and Youth with Special needs (CYSN) services.

Useful Links

- [Temporary Emergency Funding Guidelines](#)
- [Information for Child Care Providers](#)
- [MCFD Response to Covid-19](#)
- [BC COVID-19 Symptom Self-Assessment Tool](#)