

**CIRCULAR**

**Date:** October 30, 2020

**CIRCULAR NUMBER:** COVID-19 2020-172

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**To:** Program Managers/Regional Directors/Community Area Directors

**Subject:** Restrictions for CLDS in the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region,  
Steinbach

**Replaces:** COVID #2020-103 - Visitation Restrictions Eased for CLDS  
Participants Living in Residential Care Facilities

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**Type:**  Policy

Procedure

**Effective Date:** November 2, 2020

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The Chief Provincial Public Health Officer has set the #RestartMB Pandemic Response System level to Critical (red) in the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region (see below for a list of communities), for some sectors, effective Monday, November 2.

Additional precautions are being put in place for the Community Living disABILITY Services (CLDS) program that will affect visitation in residential care facilities and homes as well as day services.

**Day Services**

CLDS day services will only be offered at this time if they are considered critical. This approach will remain in effect until further notice. See the previously-distributed circular, *COVID #2020-87 Critical Day Services Approach Remains in Effect*, for more information on other daytime support options.

**Critical need**

To ensure the continued safety and well-being of CLDS participants and agency staff, and to help curb the spread of COVID-19, day services may continue only in situations where there is a critical need. This includes:

- participants living with family members who are at risk of losing employment if day services are not provided and do not have other daytime options;

- participants supported by home share providers who are unable to provide care during daytime hours, and where other arrangements are not possible; or
- participants who cannot be safely supported in their residence during daytime hours.

### **Visitation and Day Services in Residential Care Facilities and Homes with COVID-19 Case(s)**

- Visits will be suspended, unless critical to the participant's well-being.
- One visitor per family member will be considered on a case-by-case basis with the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) supplied by department and with all necessary precautions implemented.
- All day programs will be suspended.
- All community-based recreation and leisure activities will be suspended

### **Visitation and Day Services in Residential Care Facilities and Homes with No COVID-19 case(s)**

- All in-person visits to shift-staffed group homes and home shares will follow personal care home guidelines, which allow two visitors with appropriate use of PPE.
- Family members and friends will be encouraged to connect by telephone, social media or virtually to minimize in-person visits.
- All non-critical day programs will be suspended.
- All non-critical community-based recreation and leisure activities will be suspended.

**These restrictions apply to all indoor visits, whether they take place at the facility, the family's home or elsewhere. They do not apply to regular appointments in the community as long as all necessary COVID-19 precautions are taken.**

### **Outdoor Visits**

- Outdoor visits are permitted for residents who do not have COVID-19.
- A maximum of **two** visitors may be allowed outside a residential care facility at a time.
- If two or more residents would like to have outdoor visitors, the total number of visitors cannot exceed two at any given time.
- Given that the risk of transmitting the virus is less likely in outdoor settings, CLDS continues to encourage outdoor visits wherever possible. CLDS also encourages alternative communication such as video or phone calls, where appropriate.

Given that many CLDS participants are at a higher risk of contracting the virus or at higher risk of serious illness, the department has consulted with public health officials to develop this approach.

Thank you to all staff for their patience and dedication as we work through the challenges that continue to arise. We will continue to provide further information and direction related to delivering services during COVID-19.

If you have any questions, please contact your regional program manager or regular contact at Centralized Services and Resources.

Catherine Gates | Acting Assistant Deputy Minister  
Community Service Delivery

Sandra Dorbolo | Acting Executive Director  
Disability Programs and Specialized Services

Brian Malkowich | Acting Executive Director  
Regional Social Services

c. Distribution List

## **Appendix**

### **Screening Precautions for Visitors:**

- have not been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 or is being tested for COVID-19 and the results are pending;
- have not been instructed to self-isolate;
- have not travelled outside Manitoba in the last 14 days; and do not have any symptoms associated with COVID-19 (i.e., cough, fever, runny nose, sore throat, weakness or headache).

### **Communities included in the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region:**

City of Winnipeg

City of Selkirk

RM of Cartier

RM of Headingly

RM of Macdonald

RM of Ritchot

RM of Rockwood

RM of Rosser

RM of Springfield

RM of St. Andrews

RM of St. Clements

RM of St. François- Xavier

RM of Taché

RM of West St. Paul

RM of East St. Paul

Town of Niverville

Town of Stonewall

Town of Teulon

Village of Dunottar