March 13, 2020

Dear Youth Support Organization:

The Ministry of Children and Family Development is proactively responding to COVID-19, ensuring caregivers, youth, service providers, partners and our staff have the information they need.

With all the information currently circulating about the coronavirus, COVID-19, we want to you to stay healthy and provide you reliable information.

Please review and frequently check the below links for credible, accurate and up-to-date information:

- BC Center for Disease Control
- Health Link Web site
- Health Canada Information

Dr. Bonnie Henry, Public Health Officer, has recently asked all British Columbians to “do their part to prevent the transmission of infections in our communities and in our health-care system.”

You can stay healthy and prevent the spread of infections by:

- washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- avoiding touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands;
- avoiding close contact with people who are sick;
- coughing or sneezing into your sleeve and not your hands;
- staying home if you are sick to avoid spreading illness to others.

Should you suspect that you are ill as a result of COVID-19, contact your health care provider or call 811.

If you are on Independent Living Agreement or have a Youth Agreement and are confirmed to have COVID-19, please call Provincial Centralized Screening at 1 800 663-9122.

Over the coming week, the ministry will continue to provide updates and directions on the ministry Web site.

Sincerely,

Teresa Dobmeier     Cory Heavener
Assistant Deputy Minister    Assistant Deputy Minister and
Service Delivery Division       Provincial Director of Child Welfare