

## Chorus Support: Coronavirus

As we continue to follow the policies outlined by Semiahmoo House Society, our provincial and federal government, we have adjusted the supports we regularly provide. The purpose of this document is to outline the support we plan to provide and are able to provide at this time, as well as the expectations we have of tenants and staff.



*\*\*We are currently monitoring how the people we support are respecting social distancing, hand washing and sanitizing, self-isolating & the safety procedure we have put into place – this includes continuous health education.*

Below are the guidelines that the Chorus team has developed for support for the tenants. We have grouped them in levels and put details as to what support will look like. Currently, we are practicing **LEVEL 3** support and hoping that we will progress to **LEVEL 2** as things go better.

### **Level 4: Government Lockdown**

**In the case that things get worse, we want to be prepared and transparent regarding our plan. In the cases of a government lockdown, where people are ordered to stay in their homes and the spread of coronavirus has gotten much worse.**



**LOCKDOWN**

1. In order to reduce the chance of transmission, the people staying at Chorus are expected to decide (with the support of their families) whether they would prefer to be supported by their families or staff for any in person needs like grocery shopping. Staff will continue to provide support via phone calls/facetime.
2. The people staying in the apartment building are expected to self-isolate at all times, unless they require an essential service. At which time staff will support the person with their needs.
3. Tenants and staff wear masks and practice safety precautions in all interactions.
4. Staff will not be going for walks with people.

### Level 3: Current Support

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**The policies and practices we have currently in place are meant to minimize in-person contact with staff and keep the people staying here safe. They are in line with what the government is currently recommending.**



1. The people we support are expected to be self-isolating and staying in their apartments during their free time.
2. If people are leaving their homes the expectation is that *they are going with Chorus staff or family, and communicating their whereabouts (via texts or phone calls).*
3. Safety checks (Social distancing, handwashing and sanitizing, masks etc.) are done regularly. (We record data on how tenants are practicing the identified safety measures in our interactions)
4. We do not support any social activities or time with friends, the expectation is that the people we support are staying home alone or they are with their families. They can still contact their friends online, using their phones, facetime and zoom.
5. Staff are minimizing their in-person contact with the people they support.
6. Staff are wearing masks and carrying hand sanitizer while supporting tenants.
7. People we support are expected to wear a mask *when interacting with staff*, in public (Grocery Store & Pharmacy) and also in their own homes.
8. We are not providing regular life skills. If we can provide support via phone call, text or facetime then we will.
9. We are still going for occasional walks outside providing the people we support are staying 6 feet away from staff.
10. At this time, staff will modify support with people who are not following the safety procedure that has been laid out. Please keep in mind that staff are supporting multiple tenants and we want to reduce any chance of transmission.
11. We are setting up regular Zoom meetings, online activities like Zumba, Yoga.
12. We are connecting with all tenants regularly primarily using the Chorus phone (Texts, phone calls, video calls – regular checks)

## Level 2: Restrictions Reduced



**This means that the provincial government reduces the current regulations, but keeps some in place.**

1. The people we are supporting can begin to have social visits 6 feet apart with staff in their homes. They will be learning to socialize while keeping their distance.
2. Staff and tenants will still be wearing masks and using hand sanitizer.
3. Staff will support people with supervised social activities with friends that respect social distancing of at least 6 feet. These get-togethers must be overseen by staff, and will most likely occur in the common room or outdoors.
4. The expectation is that people will not be having guests over to their apartments for social visits.
5. At this time, staff will modify support with people who are socializing without supervision or going out in public without following proper safety procedure.
6. We will put in place modified life skills. These will be limited to what people can attempt to accomplish 6 feet apart. They will be shorter than regular life skills. We will provide limited cooking, grocery shopping and cleaning checks.
7. The Chorus staff will run a closed community kitchen where we prepare food for the people we support, however they will not be attending. This is to reduce the risk of contamination.

## Level 1: Return to normal



**Hypothetically, this will occur when the government takes away all restrictions. We don't have any more cases in British Columbia. A vaccine is found. We at Chorus are back to normal life.**

1. We are providing regular life skills and community kitchen.
2. People are welcome to return to their former routines.
3. The social club and calendar will be activated.