



SEMIAHMOO
HOUSE
SOCIETY

PENINSULA
ESTATES HOUSING
SOCIETY

THE
SEMIAHMOO
FOUNDATION

June 11, 2021

Re: COVID-19 Pandemic

Dear Semiahmoo House Society Community,

I am addressing this letter to the whole Semiahmoo House Society community: people we support, the families of people we support, home share providers, and all our staff members. For the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be working together, with as few boundaries as possible to ensure that everyone is supported and safe.

June 11th Update

Hello Everyone,

This letter contains information about how UNITI/SHS will be adjusting our COVID-19 safety protocols as we restart, with reference to [BC's 4-step Restart Plan](#). We have reviewed BC's Restart Plan and want to make sure the people we support are able to participate in the restart with all other British Columbians. As a social service agency, we are bound by some regulations that will make our restart a bit different, but we will roll out our Restart Steps to the same timeline as the province's. As a summary, we will not be making any changes to our current safety protocols until July 1st (Step Three), and we will be sharing what those changes look like towards the end of June when we are clearer about our guidance from our funder and other licensing bodies. Even though I do not have a lot of details in this letter, I did want to let you know the outline of our restart plan.

While staff members and the people UNITI support are guided by BC's Restart Plan in their personal lives, **UNITI/SHS's COVID-19 restart plan is different** and is based on other factors, including our need to adhere to WorkSafe, Fraser Health and CLBC regulations, as well as our COVID-19 Response Principles (listed at the end of this letter)

I should also add that we will only be moving to the next step of our restart when UNITI/SHS vaccination percentages match the criteria for that step, so please get your first and second vaccine shots as soon as they are offered. Our current records show that just over 70% of UNITI/SHS employees have received their first shot. As we are seeing in Surrey and around the world, vaccinations are greatly reducing the spread and severity of COVID-19. If you have not already, please let the supervisor of your program know when you have received your first and second shots. If you have a medical reason why you cannot be vaccinated, please let them know this information as well.

Expect more UNITI (SHS) restart details to come towards the end of June, but the chart on the next page is a rough idea of the changes that will come. Our dates will correspond with BC's dates (if BC's dates change, so will ours).

STEP	Criteria (this has to happen before we move to this step)	UNITI/SHS's COVID-19 Safety Protocols	Masks and Social Distancing
1 May 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 60% of staff members and people we support have received their first vaccination shot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NO CHANGE—all current protocols remain in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NO CHANGE
2 June 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 65% of staff members and people we support have received their first vaccination shot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All current protocols remain in place with the exception of office doors being allowed to be open (masks still must be worn when someone enters the office) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NO CHANGE
3 July 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 80% of staff members and people we support have received their first vaccination shot and 30% have received their second shot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-person training of up to 12 people (in rooms with enough capacity). Review of room and vehicle capacity for service delivery. Other changes that conform to the guidance of WorkSafe, Fraser Health, and CLBC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of mask and social distancing protocols, based on percentage of vaccinations (first and second dose) for staff and people we support People who have not received a vaccination shot will continue to wear masks and social distance
4 Sept. 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 80% of staff members and people we support have received their first vaccination shot and 50% have received their second shot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of room and vehicle capacity for service delivery. Larger indoor and outdoor events/activities permitted Other changes that conform to the regulations of WorkSafe, Fraser Health, and CLBC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of mask and social distancing protocols, based on percentage of vaccinations (first and second dose) for staff and people we support. People who have not received a vaccination shot will continue to wear masks and social distance

Below are BC's Restart Steps—these apply to our personal lives and are also based on criteria, including the percentage of people over 18 who have been vaccinated.

STEP	Criteria	PHO Guidance	Personal Gatherings	Organized Gatherings	Travel	Sports & Activities	Businesses	Offices & Workplaces
1 MAY 25	C: stable H: stable D1: 60%	Masks mandatory, indoor public spaces Physical distancing If sick, stay home and get tested	Outdoor personal gatherings – up to 10 people Indoor visitors – up to 5 people or 1 household	Indoor seated organized gatherings – up to 10 people Outdoor seated organized gatherings – up to 50 people	Recreational travel within your zone Non-essential travel between zones restricted	Low-intensity indoor fitness classes Outdoor local team games and practices for all ages – no spectators	Indoor & outdoor dining – up to 6 people Liquor service - 10PM Existing WorkSafeBC Safety Plans remain in place	Start gradual return to workplaces and offices Existing Safety Plans remain in place
2 JUNE 15 <i>(Earliest date)</i>	C: declining H: declining D1: 65%	Masks mandatory, indoor public spaces Physical distancing If sick, stay home and get tested	Outdoor personal gatherings – up to 50 people Indoor visitors – up to 5 people or 1 household Playdates	Indoor seated organized gatherings – up to 50 people Sector consultations on next steps on indoor and outdoor gatherings	BC recreational travel BC Transit and BC Ferries – increased services as needed	High-intensity indoor fitness classes - reduced capacity Indoor team games for all ages – no spectators Spectators for outdoor sports – up to 50 people	Liquor service – midnight Banquet halls reopen – limited capacity, Safety Plans Sector consultations on next steps on easing of restrictions	Continue return to work Small in-person meetings
3 JULY 1 <i>(Earliest date)</i>	C: low H: declining D1: 70%	Masks – recommended Careful social contact If sick, stay home and get tested	Return to usual on indoor and outdoor personal gatherings Sleepovers	Increased capacity, indoor and outdoor gatherings – Safety Plan Fairs & festivals with Safety Plan	Canada recreational travel	All indoor fitness classes – increased capacity Limited spectators for indoor sports	Dining – no group limit Bingo halls, casinos and nightclubs – limited capacity Operate based on new Safety Plans	Seminars and bigger meetings Operate based on new Safety Plans
4 SEPT 7 <i>(Earliest date)</i>	C: low H: low D1: 70%+	Masks – personal choice Normal social contact If sick, stay home and get tested	Normal social contact	Increased capacity on large organized gatherings (i.e. concerts)	Canada recreational travel	Increased indoor and outdoor spectators Return of normal sport competitions – Safety Plans	Continue to operate based on new Safety Plans	Fully re-opened offices and workplaces

C: C-19 case counts H: C-19 hospitalizations D1: minimum % of people 18+ with dose 1

Let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Doug Tennant



Additional Support

If you need additional support, please contact the relevant person listed below.

SHS Staff Member	Service/Program
Jasper Macabulos Associate Director of Inclusive Living j.macabulos@shsbc.ca 604 536 1242 ext. 227	Staffed Residential (Group Homes) Chorus Apartment Supports
Gale Cooper Manager, Community Support Network g.cooper@shsbc.ca 604 536 1242 ext. 231	Home Share Providers
Brianna Hopaluk Associate Director of Community Services b.hopaluk@shsbc.ca 604 536 1242 ext. 232	South Campus
Teresa Randle Transitions Services Supervisor t.randle@shsbc.ca 604 536 1242 ext. 311	North Campus Focus Group Encore
Anita Bhatti Recreation and Leisure Services Program Coordinator a.bhatti@shsbc.ca 604-536-1242 ext. 255	Rec & Leisure Services
Kristyl Downing Program Coordinator—ABIS k.downing@shsbc.ca 604-592-1006 ext. 230	Acquired Brain Injury Services
Seema Tripathi Employment and Innovative Services Director s.tripathi@shsbc.ca 778 888 5916	WISE Employment Solutions Culinary Arts Program (CULA) SPARK tidyAlot

Semiahmoo House Society's COVID-19 Principles

- 1) All our decisions will be made with the safety of the people we support and our staff members being our first priority**
- 2) We will support people with disabilities to have the same right to safety as all other citizens in BC**
- 3) We are person-centred and will adapt our services to support people in the way that is best for them, given safety and resource realities**
- 4) We are open-minded and will revise our plans when new information suggests this**
- 5) We will be responsible with taxpayer funds and will use alternate resources when necessary in our response**

Resources

While there is much media coverage of the COVID-19 virus it is important to be sure the information is reputable and up to date. Here are five sites that will keep you informed (google the name if this is not an electronic letter):

- [Public Health Authority of Canada](#)
- [BC Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [BC Ministry of Health](#)
- [CLBC COVID-19 Information Page](#)

SHS's communications about COVID-19 and our response can be found here:

<https://uniti4all.com/covid-19-information/>