



March 24, 2020

**To the people of Chilliwack, Agassiz, Harrison Hot Springs, Hope to Boothroyd, and all of our Communities in between**

The physicians and nurse practitioners and many other health care providers of our communities are on the frontlines in the battle against COVID-19. This crisis is unlike anything we have experienced in our lifetime. We are working to be there for our patients and their families.

Our providers cannot do this alone. What the public does now will impact the health of British Columbians in the weeks and months ahead. **Lives depend on your actions now.**

Our province is in a state of emergency. Here is the directive from our Provincial Health Officer, Dr Bonnie Henry:

- Stay home unless absolutely necessary. This means no dinner parties. Grocery shopping once a week. No sports, even outside. Have coffee with a friend online.
- Keep two metres or six feet away from everyone if you must go out. That's about the width of a car or the length of two arms stretched out.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Tell your loved ones to do the same.

This is especially important for young people. We sometimes see you out in the park. You can get sick from this virus. More importantly, you can be carriers and cause a lot of harm to your parents, elders, grandparents, and other loved ones. Spend time only with those you live in the same house with.

There are many people in our communities who have compromised immune systems and/or are over the age of 65 with health conditions. **This puts them at increased risk of complications and death from COVID-19, as we have already seen this week in B.C.**

In this unprecedented time, we are working hard and the community can help by choosing to stay home and social distance in efforts to reduce transmission. The time is now.

**We can do this, but we can't wait one more hour or one more day. Let's save lives, together.**

On behalf of our communities and the over 116,000 people that we serve:

**Chilliwack Division of Family Practice:** Dr. Josh Greggain (Board Chair),  
Dr. Allison Salter (Recruitment and Retention Lead), and Katrina Beppe (Executive Director)  
**Fraser Health:** Petra Pardy (Executive Director of Health Services Chilliwack, Hope & Agassiz), Catherine Wiebe, (Director of Clinical Operations) and Dr. Alex Choi (Medical Health Officer), Carolyn Neufeld (Executive Director, Aboriginal Health).

**City of Chilliwack:** Mayor Ken Popove

**District of Kent:** Mayor Sylvia Pranger

**District of Hope:** Mayor Peter Robb

**Harrison Hot Springs:** Mayor Leo Facio

**Stó:lō Service Agency:** Kelowa Edel (Health Director)

**Seabird Island:** Heather McDonald (Health Director)

**First Nations Health Authority:** Michelle DeGroot (Executive Director) and Desiree Baker (Regional Planner)

**Chilliwack Community Services** Diane Janzen (Executive Director) and Helen Edwards (Deputy Executive Director)

**School District 33:** Rohan Arul (Interim Superintendent)

**School District 78:** Karen Nelson (Superintendent) and Kevin Bird (Assistant Superintendent)

**Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce:** Leanna Kemp (Executive Director)

**The Chilliwack Progress:** Tara Hiebert (Publisher), Jen Feinberg and Jessica Peters (Reporters)

**The Hope Standard & The Agassiz Harrison Observer:** Carly Ferguson (Publisher)

**89.5 The Drive:** Sadie (Morning Show Host)



First Nations Health Authority  
Health through wellness



Chilliwack Community Services  
SHARE · GROW · BELONG



Chilliwack School District



CHILLIWACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

