

March 18 - Information for HSA members

As the global COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold worldwide, in Canada, and in BC, the situation is changing hourly.

We know that HSA members are on the front line of providing health care and social services to British Columbians who are sick and scared. We are in uncharted waters, and we are all working together to prepare as best we can for what is to come.

Thank you for your continued commitment and dedication to all British Columbians

HSA continues to be involved in regular briefings with BC Public Health and Ministry of Health officials, as well as the Health Employers Association of BC, participating in occupational health and safety meetings three times a week, and meetings to address labour relations issues twice a week. HSA staff are equipped to work from home, and the office in New Westminster remains open with limited staff, who are practicing safe physical distancing and infection control measures.

We have set up a dedicated telephone line for urgent COVID-19 related calls. It is being monitored 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, including weekends. If you have an urgent question please call 1-604-549-5168. We have also set up a dedicated email address: covid19hotline@hsabc.org, which is also monitored 7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The union's website is being updated regularly with information and resources important to members, including questions related to leaves during the pandemic period. Please visit the website at hsabc.org for up-to-date information important to you as some of the front line workers all British Columbians are depending on.

All members working in health care should have received the March 15 letter from BC's Medical Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry outlining safe practice measures. That letter is available on the HSA website here: <https://hsabc.org/sites/default/files/uploads/COVID-19%20Letter%20for%20HCWs%20-%20March%2015%202020%20%284%29.pdf>

Members working in community social services should have received the March 17 letter from the union bargaining association, available here: <https://hsabc.org/sites/default/files/uploads/CSS%20Letter%20re%20Covid.pdf>

The daily briefings by Dr. Henry and Minister of Health Adrian Dix are also available on the HSA website, along with a number of other resources, including a summary of the [COVID-19 assistance package announced by the federal government today](#).

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