

March 13, 2020

If you're feeling overwhelmed about the Covid-19 virus you are not alone.

As the virus continues to spread and the number of cases rise we will aim to keep sharing some best practices.

- Please note that travel is becoming more restricted.
- We expect to see a slow down on work permits processes in the near future.

Some extra steps to be taking in communities (nursing home precautions)

- Limit visitors to the homes and programs
- Post visual alerts (signs, posters) at entrances and in strategic places providing instruction on hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, and cough etiquette
- Ensure supplies are available (tissues, waste receptacles, alcohol-based hand sanitizer)
- Take steps to prevent known or suspected COVID-19 individuals from exposing other people
- Limit the movement of COVID-19 individuals (e.g., have them remain in their room)
- Identify dedicated personnel to care for COVID-19 individuals.
- Observe those in homes and programs for development of respiratory symptoms.
- Make a plan for increased absenteeism
- Encourage personnel and support people to stay home if they are feeling unwell

L'Arche Cape Breton has supplied us with another great poster to inspire us not to shake hands. Thanks for sharing your best practices. Please adapt and use this in your homes, programs, and work spaces.

Attached is a sample plan from L'Arche Cape Breton about how they are planning ahead. You have permission to use as an example to create your own plan

Again, we are learning as we go, keep sharing , and stay in touch with your local health authorities, health Canada, and your ministry program supervisors about supports available.

Pooran Law deals with issues in the Developmental Services Sector. They are offering a free Webinar on Employers dealing with HR issues & Covid-19. **(it will be Ontario specific, English only)**

<https://communications.hicksmorley.com/23/449/march-2020/update--covid-19---questions-and-answers-for-employers.asp?sid=626af429-ab6d-437c-a77a-c1aa6e8ebdde>

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3310366033958571789>

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