



COLLEGE OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Suite 300, 388 Harbour Road
Victoria, British Columbia V9A 3S1
WWW.CDHBC.COM

Phone: (250) 383-4101
Fax: (250) 383-4144
Toll-free: (800) 778-8277 (B.C. only)

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Dear Registrant:

We know that we are all thinking about a resumption to the provision of in-person non-essential care and that registrants are very eager to receive information on how to do that safely.

The College is working very hard and as quickly as possible to provide information to registrants on this resumption. In this regard we have been collaborating for some time with the other three oral health colleges, the other health professional colleges through the BCHR, and the Office of the Provincial Health Officer. Collaboration is vital to ensure a consistent approach both across the range of community health delivery disciplines as well as, more specifically, the oral health care disciplines. However, the breadth of this collaboration combined with ensuring we are doing our due diligence in putting these documents together does take some time. We ask for your patience. Please know that as soon as this information is ready we will be sharing it with all registrants.

At this time, we are still in Phase 1 of the Restart BC Plan. Dr. Henry has indicated that the move to Phase 2 on or around May 19th is looking likely. Our plan is to have both general and oral health-specific information distributed in advance of that anticipated change. This of course may be fluid as we know the situation has and will no doubt continue to evolve.

As was mentioned in a previous email, while awaiting this information registrants should become very familiar with the College's [IPAC Guidelines](#). In addition, registrants can visit the [BCCDC site for Health Professionals](#) and [WorkSafeBC](#) for some general information.

It is important to note that when Phase 2 is put in place, and the College recommendation regarding non-essential care changes, it does not mean that there is an expectation of a 'must' return. Each practice, and each professional within that practice, will have to consider all the information provided as well as their own circumstances to determine when and how care can be provided in a manner that will keep clients, themselves and all those within the practice safe. Some registrants may decide that a resumption of the provision of in-person non-essential care on May 19th is not prudent or desirable for a multitude of reasons. I think Dr. Henry says it best, as she always does, that a measured and thoughtful resumption will keep us all safe; a slow stream and not a rushing river. We have heard from many registrants regarding their questions and concerns regarding the resumption of in-person non-essential care. We are working diligently on providing information to support this resumption in line with our regulatory mandate.

Be well. Be safe.

Registrar/CEO