

## Health and Safety Advisory Committee Teleconference

Date: 2020-06-02

Lead : Ashley Havlin

Recorder: Michelle de Moel

	Discussion
1.0 Why the need to meet?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When reopening the centres we need to ensure providers are working together with PH, etc. including EarlyOn centres. Expecting child care to open first, then a staged approach to additional services. Service providers have been sent materials regarding emergency child care operations. We have staff who can provide guidance in opening (see the attached)</li> <li>• Expecting changes in child/adult ratio.</li> <li>• We had to close our Fort Erie centre for 14 days due to an individual testing positive.</li> </ul>
2.0 Introduction of staff supports	<p>Andree Laflamme- Manager, Environmental Health.            Trevor Ward - Corporate Health and Safety Advisor.            Rachael Hollingsworth - Health and Safety Program Advisor.            Laura Rasmussen - Manager of Direct Operations, Niagara Region Child Care.            Ashley Havlin - Supervisor of St. Catharines Child Care and Committee Lead            Brenda Steele – Supervisor of Fort Erie. Brenda has been completing the orientation for reopening.            Jennifer Greenland – Supervisor of Branscombe Early Learning and Family Centre.            Robin Cotton – Supervisor of Port Colborne Regional Child Care. Currently working out of Fort Erie due to the regular centre location being inside a school.            Terry Barclay – Supervisor of Welland Regional Child Care Centre.</p>
3.0 Operationalizing Services	<p>What Niagara Region Children’s Services directly operated Centres have learned while operating emergency child care centres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From opening day, every week the comfort level of the staff is increasing, they have developed a good routine.</li> <li>• COVID website page is updated frequently, we have a symptom checker that parents and staff can access, tips and tools. There are various headings on this page such as:</li> <li>• Health and Safety- FAQs, testing and lab results; self isolation information; posters and</li> </ul>

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	<p>resources (handwashing, physical distancing, etc.), links to the provincial portal and government of Canada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Community and Social Services- which would link you to childcare.</li> <li>• Service Disruptions amongst other resources are located on this page. COVID-19 stats for the Niagara Region of how many cases is located under Stay Connected;</li> <li>• State of Emergency</li> <li>• Underneath there is a link for COVID-19 videos; these videos are good resources for questions that you may have about COVID-19. There is also a 3 part video series from Dr.Feller about talking to your children about COVID-19.</li> <li>• Ontario.ca is another useful site.</li> <li>• Once you enter the site- click on the “latest updates about COVID-19 page”. This link will take you to many resources including Criteria for Child Care to Open- here you will find the COVID-19: Guidance: Emergency Child Care Centres; Version 2 from May 8-2020</li> <li>• This document provides basic information from the Ministry of Health. With that being said, it is important that you are staying current with information from the MOH and Niagara Region COVID page and Public Health- as things are changing often.</li> <li>• The COVID-10 guidelines discuss:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requirements for Health and Safety- you will find the information about current infection prevention and control practices, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces at minimum twice a day and using disinfectants with a DIN.</li> <li>• Also link to Ontario.ca with resources including criteria for reopening, infection prevention practices, physical distancing.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• We allow siblings to sit together in our centres, put cots further apart or children head to toe, children wash hands as soon as they arrive before and after eating. We advise parents to only bring necessities, comfort items are washed and sent home daily. We do a screening process that has been approved by PH, we have lines 6 feet apart. A screener asks questions on the parent arrival, uses hand sanitizer, and completes the form, parent takes child’s temperature and sign off on the form. Anything touched is disinfected after use, including door handles. We have thermometers for forehead and ear.</li> <li>• We conduct a midday temperature check of each child which is charted. Any child displaying any COVID symptoms is isolated awaiting pick up. Once the child leaves, everything is disinfected and parent referred to PH. We do a SO if child is going to be</li> </ul>

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	<p>tested.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID exposure guidelines are on our site, cleaning protocols, staff have designated duties. We have a daily checklist over and above the daily checklist, includes the heightened cleaning procedures.</li> <li>• Contact information for the COVID line including wait times and a chat option is there if you have any questions about COVID-19 or you are seeking referral for testing.</li> <li>• Playground equipment is disinfected after use twice daily. Staff can wear protective equipment if desired</li> <li>• Disinfecting logs – posted throughout the centre, we have a bucket in each area for items that have been used.</li> <li>• Washroom, cleaned and disinfected between uses.</li> <li>• Keep COVID documentation separate from regular operating binder.</li> <li>• We get regular email staff updates from the Manager of Children’s Services.</li> <li>• YouTube has videos showing how to use protective equipment, taking it on and off.</li> <li>• We have masks and face shields for staff for when distancing cannot be maintained.</li> <li>• Custodian Pandemic Daily Checklist- encompasses all of the heightened cleaning and disinfecting that needs to be taken in to consideration during this time.</li> <li>• The COVID-19 Guidance version 2 says that frequently touched surfaces must be disinfected twice daily at minimum. This checklist shows our due-diligence in ensuring that we are accountable for cleaning and disinfecting: washrooms and a break-down of what needs to be completed is provided and also what time it was completed. High touch surfaces- door knobs, etc.; Toys in the playroom and also outside- items that need to be cleaned and disinfected.</li> <li>• In the St. Catharines Centre we clean and disinfect in the morning and afternoon when the children are outside; this minimizes the children being around the cleaning products;</li> <li>• Ministry of Health has web links and information.</li> <li>• Our PH department has been very helpful in answering questions regarding COVID.</li> </ul>
3.1 Public Health	<p><b>Andre Laflamme</b>            Screening – challenges with centres, layout, and entrance. etc. but distancing is paramount and the use of PPE is vital, thermometers, taking temperatures outside the door.            Symptoms other than the regular are nausea, no sense of smell or taste, sore throat. Any questions can be directed to PH. No plush toys or hard to clean items, frequent hand washing.</p>

	<b>Discussion</b>
	<p>Use low level hospital grade disinfectant, steam clean carpets weekly if possible. Have a plan and policy for screening, e.g. what if someone fails screening or develops symptoms when at the centre?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Think about high touch areas that need to be disinfected more frequently.</li> </ul>
<p>3.2 Health and Safety Perspective</p>	<p><b>Trevor Ward</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have developed fact sheets for both managers and workers, quick shareable information, e.g. ill worker – what to do? Fact sheets on non-medical face coverings, medical grade or not, how to take PPE on and off. How to extend the life of a facemask.</li> <li>• Following Ministry and PH directives.</li> <li>• Active and enhanced pre-screen importance as the first line of defense, consider your environmental setup.</li> <li>• There is a WSIB Adjudicative process in regards to occupational claims.</li> <li>• Develop COVID Joint Health and Safety Committee, have the Health &amp; Safety rep complete checklists.</li> <li>• Products that are effective should have a sanitization Drug Identification Number (DIN).</li> <li>• Need to be consistent in application of iPad measures.</li> <li>• Purge as much as possible - benefits when cleaning or sanitizing in the event of an outbreak.</li> <li>• Under the H&amp;S Act, review the Employer diligence under OHSA 25 (2)(h).</li> </ul> <p><b>Rachel Hollingsworth</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have tried to leverage with H&amp;S reps on a daily basis, on reducing risk, have a checklist that staff can see.</li> <li>• Guidance documents show where to take measures, what strategies can be put in place. Have a return to work plan in place.</li> </ul>
<p>3.3 Issues/Questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will send out a contact information list along with the minutes.</li> <li>• Send questions via email to Sarah Glenney.</li> <li>• Develop a staff training plan and a risk assessment.</li> <li>• <b>Let us know what your training needs are.</b></li> <li>• We are looking at ECCDC to secure PPE.</li> </ul>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>TBD</p>