

SALN

Self Advocate Leadership Network

April 7, 2020

SALN COVID-19 News-sheet

1. SALN would like to share the following:

1. It is critical that all resources and information are in plain language.
2. There needs to be one place for self-advocate dedicated information.
 - a. SALN believes this should be CLBC and/or Inclusion BC.
3. Self-advocates need more information about employment insurance, including the EI process and who qualifies.
4. There is not enough income for some self-advocates to manage through this crisis.
5. Everyone needs a COVID-19 Emergency plan (see attached document from Semiahmoo House Society) to be prepared and figure out.
 - a. People need to know and have written down
 - i. What help do people have during this present situation? (COVID-19 emergency)?
 - ii. Who is in their lives to provide support/help with things/ensure they are healthy and safe?
 - iii. How are people doing financially?
 1. Ensure people have enough money to pay for what they need.
 2. Help to pay bills/expenses.
 3. How to get money. How to get to the bank.
 4. How to pay for things like groceries and supplies.
 5. Who is going to help with this stuff and how will they help.
 - iv. Knowing and understanding the BC COVID-19 plans: who to call for advice, guidance or in an emergency and when.
 - v. Who needs to be contacted if the persons gets sick/COVID-19 or has to go to the hospital.
 - vi. The plan if the person gets sick with COVID-19.
 - vii. The plan if the person's supporter gets sick with COVID-19.
 - viii. The plan if the person has to go to the hospital.
 - ix. The plan if the hospital is full.
 - x. The plan to check in and see how the person is doing.
 - xi. What do people need to help them get through this.

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2. SALN would like to be informed of the following:

1. What are organizations doing to reach out to people for emotional/mental health support?
2. What are CLBC and Service Providers doing to ensure everyone has a representation agreement?
3. Where is the clear information about staying safe outside and in the community? Ex., When can we go out? How do we get groceries?
4. For people who live independently, where is the clear information on how to pay bills and to do online banking. Ex., How to pay Hydro and Telus
5. What happens if you are on OAP? How does it apply to us? Is OAP getting extra money support?
6. What are Government, CLBC and Service Provider organizations (non-profit and for profit) doing to ensure supporters (staff and home share providers) are being supported? What are they doing to help them stay safe, healthy, informed – as this is an essential service and CLBC/service provider organizations' responsibility to provide essential services – what is happening? What is not happening? What needs to happen? "If supporters are not healthy, safe and informed – then we aren't."
7. What are Government, CLBC and Service Provider organizations (non-profit and for profit) doing to ensure unpaid and natural supporters (family and friends) are being supported? What are they doing to help them stay safe, healthy, informed? What is happening? What is not happening? What needs to happen?

Please invite SALN to participate in creating and delivering solutions where it makes sense. Response can be sent to SALN support, Jillian Glennie, at sas@shsbc.ca.