

IPAC Preventative Measures

As of July 21, 2023

These measures are informed by the guidance of Ministry of Health, Public Health and Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services.

Screening

CLGW Employees

Passive screening. Self-check for symptoms before attending your shift.

Visitors AND volunteers, students, third-party contractors

Passive screening. Sign-in using the Visitor Log.

People Supported

Passive screening. If the person is feeling unwell or showing symptoms of illness, has had high risk exposure, is living in an active outbreak, or has tested positive for COVID, the Daily Health Check form and the protocol on the form must be completed.

Rapid Antigen Testing

CLGW Employees

Rapid Antigen Tests remain available for employees. Employees should test themselves if they have symptoms of illness. They should also test if they have had an exposure to someone who has tested positive to COVID or is symptomatic, or if they are working in an outbreak.

Visitors AND volunteers, students, third-party contractors

Not required.

People Supported

If a person supported shows signs or symptoms or has had an exposure, follow protocol on form SA33 and try to perform a Rapid Antigen Test.

Masking

As of June 7, 2023, CLGW has shifted from Universal Masking to a Mask Optional Policy for everyday interactions.

What this means:

- A person's choice to wear a mask during everyday interactions will be honoured and respected without question.
- Masks will continue to be provided and accessible at all locations or people may choose to provide their own mask.
- Follow proper mask hygiene practices, including performing hand hygiene before applying and removing a mask, discarding used masks immediately, wearing the mask appropriately, and performing hand hygiene if you must touch your mask.
- If you are asked to remove your mask by a person at CLGW, you have the right to refuse and are not required to explain why you prefer to wear a mask.
- Visitors to our locations are asked to do a personal wellness check prior to attending. A visitor log must be completed upon arrival.
- **As an employee, you are required to review G195 – Mask Optional Policy in detail.** It is now available on the Policies tab.
- **As an employee,** there are health and safety and IPAC scenarios where masking will still be required (such as outbreak management, as directed in the Return to Work Guidelines, and when interacting with certain chemicals, etc.). The Mask-Optional Policy is for everyday interactions and does not take precedent over health and safety or IPAC personal protective equipment requirements.
- **As an employee,** you are required to perform a Point of Care Risk Assessment prior to every interaction with a person supported or task to be performed. During the PCRA, you should identify if a mask or additional Personal Protective Equipment is required to protect the respiratory tract or other areas of the body when there is a risk of exposure to splashes or droplets of bodily fluids. Masks are recommended but not required when in close proximity with a person supported for more than 15 minutes (such as in a vehicle).
- **Please see your email for the PCRA flowcharts, attached to the memo sent about this change.**

Other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

CLGW Employees

Face shields or eye protection, and gowns are required when:

- Performing activities where you may be at risk of being in contact or splashed with bodily fluids, such as showering or bathing someone who may be incontinent.
- Face shields/eye protection should be donned whenever there is a risk of getting bodily fluids in your face or eyes, such as if someone is sneezing or coughing, or if you're supporting someone with oral hygiene, or feeding someone and there's a risk of bodily fluid excretion.
- Gowns should be donned whenever there is a risk of getting bodily fluids on your clothing, such as when showering or bathing someone, or doing a brief change.
- Gloves should be worn anytime there is a risk of contaminating your hands.

Physical Distancing

CLGW Employees

Physical distancing is no longer required.

Employees are encouraged to do a point of care risk assessment before being in close proximity with people supported. For example: if there is a risk of bodily fluids being splashed, wearing increased PPE or maintaining physical distance should occur to protect yourself.

Wear appropriate PPE when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

Hand Hygiene

CLGW Employees

Practice hand hygiene often. Wash hands when entering location, before/after eating or drinking, before/after any tasks, before/after interactions with other people, before/after donning/doffing a mask, etc.. If hand washing isn't available, use sanitizer.

Visitors AND volunteers, students, third-party contractors

Practice hand hygiene often. Wash hands when entering location, before/after eating or drinking, before/after any tasks, before/after interactions with other people, before/after donning/doffing a mask, etc.. If hand washing isn't available, use sanitizer.

People Supported

Practice hand hygiene often. Wash hands when entering location, before/after eating or drinking, using the washroom, before/after any tasks, before/after interactions with other people, before/after donning/doffing a mask, etc.. If hand washing isn't available, use sanitizer.

High-touch surfaces, cleaning and disinfecting

CLGW Employees

A general daily cleaning and the nightly check is now the standard.

If your location is experiencing an active outbreak, if a person tests positive or has a high risk exposure, increased cleaning is required. Print off Form SA32 and follow instructions.

This includes:

- Frequent cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and objects.
- Shared equipment/surfaces/rooms must be cleaned and disinfected after each use (e.g., toilets, showers, staff desk, keyboard, remote, blood pressure cuff, pens, etc.).
- Ensure HEPA Air Purifiers are in the most appropriate area and filters are being changed regularly.
- Any additional measures to increase air circulation are encouraged (such as stove fans, bathroom fans, the furnace fan should be on at all times even when not heating or cooling, open windows to provide fresh air within the homes, worksites and vehicles).

Community-based activities

CLGW Employees

Employees are expected to follow all of the same Routine Practices in the community.

"Community-based activities for people supported are permitted and encouraged. The people we support should be going out and attending activities in our communities as safely as they can.

Assess risk ahead of time using the three C's where COVID can spread easily: crowded spaces; close-contact settings; confined and enclosed spaces with poor ventilation.

If these can be avoided by choosing a similar activity, please consider this. Consider the person you're supporting and their ability to stay safe. If the person can't tolerate a mask, consider activities that have limited crowds or attending during quieter periods. If the person is more likely to touch surfaces and put their fingers in their mouth, consider activities where there are less surfaces they can touch or bring disinfecting wipes and hand hygiene supplies. The goal is to still see people participating and experiencing fulfilling opportunities - as safely as possible."