

Meeting Notes: Licensed Childcare Conference Call with Dr. Patricia Daly, Vice President, Public Health Officer and Chief Medical Officer from Vancouver Coastal Health.

Hi everyone,

I wanted to fill you in on some key notes I took last night while I attended a conference call with Dr. Patricia Daly, Vice President, Public Health Officer and Chief Medical Officer from Vancouver Coastal Health. There was over 1000 people listening in on the call and the call was in reference to licensed childcare centres. However, some good points were discussed which addressed some of our Summer Camps.

Two main themes:

1. This call was in reference to licensed centres for children 0-9years
2. The overall theme she carried was, with a slight increase in some procedures, these centres are fine to offer safe care for children and staff to work in

Again, a lot of this is just discussion points and there doesn't seem to be documentation on some of these points. Also there seems to be a disconnect on what Dr. Patricia Daly is saying and what licensing officers are telling their childcare centres. Here are some key notes I took:

- In regards to 0-9yrs, the province has tested over 3000 children and only 20 cases have been positive. This represents 0.05% of CV19 cases are found in this age group of children. This is such a tiny percentage that it offers a very low risk to be able to offer programming and care for this age group.
- There has not been an outbreak in a childcare centre
- There has not been a case of a child transmitting CV19 to an adult, anywhere in the world
- Children of healthcare workers are some of the safest children coming to our centres, as their parents are able to be tested at the first sign of symptoms
- Physical Distancing with this age group is not possible and we should not be punishing kids for not maintaining social distance. Instead, be good role models and encourage this behaviour, but not enforce it
- Try to offer physical distancing at snack, meal and nap time
- Best disinfectant to kill CV19 is bleach solution and air dry

- CV19 does not live outdoors easily. Play structures and outdoor play should not be a worry. Kids should just wash their hands when coming back indoors
- Screening for children - no temperature checks needed, as that is not a true indication of CV19. We don't do this at airports, so it is not needed at childcare centres
- If there is a new onset of fever & cough, children should be sent home and tested. Normal protocols should be followed for when children become sick at the centre
- Childcare centres were never ordered closed, they are an essential service. Schools were not closed by Public Health, the Ministry of Education decided to close them
- CV19 survives best on hard surfaces. Clean and disinfect tables and chairs when possible. At beginning and end of day should suffice
- Encourage, offer the space and maintain physical distancing for parents and family groups at drop off and pick up
- Premier John Horgan will be announcing next week measures of other sectors to reopen and may lead the way on how childcare centres can reopen
- We can expect to be back to "normal" when we have a vaccine or effective treatment for CV19

I think that is it. There is apparently going to be a transcript of the 1.5hr call and a recording. If I can get my hands on where that is, I will pass it on.

Definitely some thoughts to consider when looking at Summer programming with this age group.

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