

COVID-19 Update

Child Care Operators/Providers/Partners

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Edition 17



Ministry of
Children and Family
Development

Province Launches Restart Plan

As COVID-19 case counts steadily decline and more and more British Columbians receive their first dose of vaccine, the [government has announced](#) it's moving forward with a [four-step plan](#) to bring B.C. back together.



This plan has been designed based on data and guidance from the BC Centre for Disease Control and Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer. Currently there are no changes to the child care health and safety guidelines your facility is following. Public health guidance for child care settings will be updated through the summer to reflect the phases of BC's Restart plan. The ministry will work with public health and WorkSafeBC to finalize these updates by July 1.

New Health and Safety Grant Coming for 2021

New funding will soon be available for child care facilities requiring assistance to help with costs associated to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2021 Health and Safety Grant (HSG) will be open to licensed child care facilities currently receiving CCOF and those operating as Universal Prototype Sites.

Facilities that received a grant last year must complete their 2020 spending report to receive a grant in 2021. Full details will be made available soon.

Did you watch the Child Care Awards of Excellence?

Recognizing the outstanding achievements of people, organizations and local governments who helped families and communities thrive in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Child Care Awards of Excellence premiered earlier this week on the [Government of British Columbia's YouTube channel](#).

Hosted by Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care, alongside Mitzi Dean, Minister of Children and Family Development, the 90-minute ceremony welcomed many award winners who shared their appreciation at being recognized for outstanding service in their community.



This year's award recipients were chosen from 88 nominations submitted by peers, parents, child care advocates, local governments, and other organizations. The virtual event has already been viewed more than 1,300 times and will continue to be available to those who missed it or want to watch again.

COVID-19 Information

- [COVID-19 Provincial and Federal Benefits](#)
- [BC COVID-19 Symptom Self-Assessment Tool](#)
- [Information for Child Care Providers](#)
- [Guidance for Child Care Settings](#)