

Date:	May 20, 2020
To:	NH Leadership and Physician Leadership
From:	Northern Health EOC
Re:	Pandemic Recovery – Workplace Safety Plans

On May 14th, 2020 the Provincial Health Officer issued an order identifying requirement for [Workplace COVID-19 Safety Plans](#). Subsequently, WorkSafeBC has directed (in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation) the [development of these plans](#) to ensure that the risk of COVID-19 transmission at workplaces is minimized. In addition, there may be additional protocols prescribed by specific professional colleges.

Northern Health is committed to providing safe and healthy workplaces and recognizes careful planning is required as we increase our service delivery to ensure the safety for all individuals accessing our services on site, as well as compliance with all applicable protocols

We have established a working group comprised of Workplace Health and Safety, Infection Control, Information Management/Information Technology, Facilities, and Communication who are diligently working on a Northern Health Pandemic Recovery - Safety Plan Toolkit, which will provide the guiding resources and processes to assist facilities and teams to meet the following deliverables:

1. Identify and assess the risks at your worksite/unit
2. Guide identification of strategies to protect against the identified risks. **Different protocols offer different levels of protection. We will aim to offer the highest level of protection, however this process will require incorporation of various controls to address/mitigate risks.*
3. Implement communication of exposure control plans, policies, and relevant training.
4. Involve JOHSC in monitoring their workplace and updating plans as needed.

This recovery toolkit will be available Monday, May 25, 2020, inclusive of a process guide.

Prior to restoring services or bringing staff back to the workplace it is expected site leaders will coordinate safety plan completion through use of the safety plan toolkit, inclusive of the risk assessment approach and an action checklist. Once completed site leaders will need to review plans with staff and post safety plans at site (this plan may be requested by WorkSafeBC Prevention Officers in future workplace inspections).

- **Completion of this plan will require active involvement of JOHSC worker representative, so please ensure that identified members are available to participate (e.g. worker representative co-chair).**

Thank you all for your hard work and patience during this ever-changing stressful time. If you have questions now or in the future as this work unfolds, please contact workplacehealthandsafety@northernhealth.ca.