



BINCHE WHUT'EN

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June 9, 2020

Binche Whut'en Council is excited to say it is implementing plans to have increased staff back to office work starting June 15. Chief and Council will not be considering a full reopening of the offices until July 20, 2020, allowing for the full quarantine period following the Binche Fishing Derby.

At this time, it is important to know, however, that we are not opening up public access to our buildings.

Essential services which had been offered during our office closure, for example the services of our Health Centre, will continue with no change at this time. Clients must make an appointment and can only see the health workers if they are masked and only for the time needed to assist. No socialising or hanging out before or after your appointment!

We offer our thanks to all of our employees who have been working from home over the past several weeks. It has been a challenging time working in unusual environments.

There are numerous changes we have made to our working environment which will maintain the safety of our staff during this transition. Those changes include, but are not limited to:

- A two-week rotating on-site schedule, meaning 50% of employees will be in the buildings for two-weeks, the remainder to continue working from home. This allows for the 14-day monitoring for symptoms.
- The staff that have loyally worked in the offices during this pandemic will continue with their schedule of 3 days in office, working from home 2 days a week.
- The installation of plexiglass at our front desk counters in all buildings with a reception space.
- Provision of hand sanitizer, gloves, and masks to our employees. As well as gowns and face shields for our health staff.
- Strict social distance guidelines for staff who are required to interact with the public.
- Community members may make an appointment to speak with a staff member but must limit the length of the appointment (no socializing) and wear a mask in Binche Whut'en offices.
- Health home support visits will start again July 1st, staff will be wearing full PPE and we request the client where possible follow strict social distancing
- A comprehensive sanitation schedule for our buildings.

These changes were made in consideration of public health and WorkSafeBC guidelines, and are an important step towards reaching the 'new normal' of work.

We thank the Binche community for its continued patience, and we thank everyone's continued diligence to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the Northern Health region, the province, and the country. We are certainly not done with this pandemic, but our combined efforts have made it possible to get to where we are today.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gerald Anatole". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Chief Gerald Anatole