

August 18, 2020

www.staffassociation.ca

Message from the Chair...

I hope that all of you managed to take some time for yourself, to rest, recharge, and prepare for not only the usual busy September, but the re-entry to schools in Scenario one, in-school classes (near normal with health measures) due to Covid-19.

As the world has tried to adjust to the new way of being, we have all had to make personal changes and adapt to this new way. Making the situation even more challenging for some, is that the information being released around Covid-19 has frequently changed. This can be confusing for many, and we can recognize the difficulties organizations can face when making plans and decisions as they resume operations. The Alberta government has mandated that all schools open fully in September, but know that the unions that represent all staff that are employed by the CBE, including Staff Association, are meeting with the CBE to ensure that your return to work is as safe as possible under the circumstances that we all face.

While many of you have questions and concerns around leaves, isolating, class sizes, safety, and more, we are still waiting for processes to be shared from the CBE. We do know that all staff will be provided masks and plexiglass shields will be provided for the front office, with two additional plexiglass shields also available. Staff and students will self-screen before entering any CBE building. Please continue to look for updates on Staff Insite: https://insite.cbe.ab.ca/system_tools/emergency_safety_security/coronavirus/Pages/Guidelines-school.aspx

Staff Association believes it is important to be aware of COVID-19 protocols and procedures, and we recommend that for those school-based support staff members that are able to return to work on August 31st do so. On this date, you will receive time to do the mandatory COVID-19 training in PublicSchoolWORKS (PSW). If you are not able to return on this date, please let your principal know. If you have difficulties arranging a mutually agreeable day to take off in lieu of working August 31st, do not hesitate to contact the SA Office.

For employees on the casual roster, you will be asked to complete the COVID-19 PublicSchoolWORKS (PSW) training on the day of your first assignment and time will be provided to you to do this.

The Government of Alberta has recommended asymptomatic COVID-19 testing prior to the start of the school year. This is voluntary. You may book a test through Alberta Health Services using the [online self-assessment tool](#) or contact a [local participating community pharmacy](#).

We will send out another Update/FYI as we learn more.

Be kind, be safe, be smart and stay 6 feet apart!

Rae-Ann Royal

What Is Staff Association Doing?

We have been meeting regularly with other CBE union groups and the CBE re-entry team. We discuss our concerns and represent member issues with safety as a priority. We have been responding (as best we can, with the available information) to member phone calls and emails.

What Can Staff Association Do?

We can bring forward concerns and suggestions to the CBE, we can educate and inform members of their rights and responsibilities, we can fight for adherence to the Collective Agreement and we can work with other CBE union groups.

What Can You As A Member Do?

Read your Collective Agreement, contact SA's Chair or Managers with your questions or concerns. Call your MLA, be involved politically, write letters, be aware of groups that may share similar concerns, such as Support our Students Alberta (<https://www.supportourstudents.ca/>).

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Resources Available

If you are feeling anxious about returning to work, this resource from Homewood Health may have some information: https://insite.cbe.ab.ca/career/compensation_benefits/efap/newsletters/COVID19-Pandemi-Toolkit-HomeWood.pdf

Employee and Family Assistance Program

Help to manage work and personal life – at no cost – 24/7



For more information please visit CBE's website (www.cbe.ab.ca): [Insite](#) → [manage your career](#) → [compensation & benefits](#) → [Employee & Family Assistance Program](#)

Employee Health Resource Centre

[Employee Health Resource Centre \(EHRC\)](#)

t | 403-777-7788 \ email: ehrc@cbe.ab.ca \ hours: Monday to Friday from 8:15am to 4:30pm

Valuable CBE Information

Employee Contact Centre (ECC)

Need Help? Have Questions? Call CBE's Employee Contact Centre: t | 403-817-7333 ecc@cbe.ab.ca. The Employee Contact Centre (ECC), CBE Human Resources, can assist you with questions regarding your salary, payroll, group benefits, pension, leaves, vacation pay, salary verification letters, records of employment, T4's, retirement planning, resignation/retirement processing and any other general inquiry you may have including self-service in PeopleSoft.