



September 18, 2020

RE: Leadership Team Communication regarding Staff Support; Indoor Community Facilities

Dear RHA Membership, Families, Guardians and Staff,

Early in the COVID-19 pandemic, the Robin Hood Association Leadership team recognized that many of the people we support are compromised by chronic health conditions and by advancing years. We were also very concerned about the health and safety of our staff, and for others who come into contact with the people we support. We all have a serious responsibility to each other to prevent community spread to the greatest extent possible.

As a strategy in response to this obligation, Adult Services will not support individuals in residential, day, supported independent living or respite to access indoor community facilities until January 2021. RHA in services who are independent in their navigation of the community will continue to be provided education on safety community involvement with no restrictions from our staff. Further to this, individuals when supported by their families are encouraged to take PPE, social distancing, and sanitization precautions but also able to engage in indoor community facilities.

As we progress into the fall and winter season, our weather will make outdoor community activity less accessible and viable for many in service. As indoor mainstream community facilities will not be supported, RHA will increase the use of our major facility spaces in the city of Fort Saskatchewan and Strathcona County to facilitate a variety of meaningful social, creative, fitness, and other recreational activities for those in service. Our management team has developed a framework to support activities that mitigates safety risk along with the opportunity to connect and enjoy pastimes. This document has been attached for the understanding of our families and the application of our supervisors.

Although difficult, COVID-19 gives us all the opportunity to reflect on what and how we support service quality. This challenge gives us yet another opportunity to serve individuals in new and meaningful ways.

Ben King

Director, Adult Services
Robin Hood Association