



March 20, 2020

Dear Nursing Colleagues:

On behalf of the Nursing Policy Secretariat and the Ministry of Health, I would like to thank you for your courage, resilience and ongoing efforts in responding to the pandemic that is affecting all British Columbians in unprecedented ways.

These are unprecedented times and we know that all British Columbians rely on our health system every day to stay healthy and sustain life – this is true now more than ever. As we continue to implement enhanced public health measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in B.C., it is vital that health services, and nurses who contribute to these areas, continue to provide care and are supported in this.

Nurses are integral to this response, and we appreciate the contribution of each of the nursing disciplines—Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses, Registered Psychiatric Nurses, and Nurse Practitioners—across the system. You, as nurses, have shown great leadership and compassion for one another and for your patients in a public health emergency that is evolving and changing daily.

Thank you for all you are doing and continue to do. As always, be vigilant in taking care of yourself, your family, our patients, and communities – it may seem simple, but our best defense is to maintain social distancing, wash our hands frequently, avoid touching our faces, cough/sneeze into our elbow sleeves, and stay home if we are sick.

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Please take time to care for your own well-being and seek support as needed – either through services offered by your employer or other supports available via:


Canadian Mental Health Association: [www.cmha.bc.ca](http://www.cmha.bc.ca)

Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of BC: <https://portal.nnpbc.com/covid-19-updated-statement/>

BC Centre for Disease Control: <http://www.bccdc.ca/>

COVID Self-Assessment Tool: <https://covid19.thrive.health/>

With sincere gratitude,



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