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**MINISTER  
OF FAMILIES**

Legislative Building  
Winnipeg, Manitoba CANADA  
R3C 0V8

April 7, 2020

To:  
Community Living disABILITY Services  
and Child and Family Services providers:

The Manitoba government continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring the services we provide are adapted to meet the current needs of Manitobans. As the Minister of Families, my department is particularly focused on the well-being of some of our most vulnerable residents, including people with disabilities and children in the care of child and family services agencies.

In keeping with the public health order that came into effect on April 1:

- All organizations and individuals that provide services to people with disabilities or children in care on behalf of the Manitoba government can continue operations and the delivery of services (see appendix below).
- Limitations that restrict public gatherings to no more than 10 people specifically exclude critical social services.

Any person or publicly-funded agency, organization or authority that delivers or supports government operations and services is expected to continue to provide service. This includes child and family services (CFS) agencies, CFS and Community Living disABILITY services (CLDS), group homes and other care providers. This also includes any residential care facilities in the CFS and CLDS sectors.

The department is committed to safety and stability of service in this challenging time. Thank you for your dedication and attention to these important issues as we continue to support Manitobans when they need us most. If you have questions, I encourage you to reach out to Lorna Hanson, 204-945-7274.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Heather Stefanson', written in a cursive style.

Honourable Heather Stefanson  
Minister of Families

- c. John Leggat, Deputy Minister of Families
- Sarah Thiele, Assistant Deputy Minister, Children and Youth Services, Dept. of Families
- Heidi Wurmman, A/ADM, Corporate Services Division, Dept. of Families
- Catherine Gates, A/ADM, Employment and Income Assistance, Dept. of Families

**Appendix**

**ORDER  
THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT  
(Section 67)**

...

- 3(5)** Nothing in this Order prevents operations or the delivery of services by any of the following, regardless of whether they are listed in the Schedule:
- (a) the Government of Canada, the Government of Manitoba or a municipality;
  - (b) any person or publicly funded agency, organization or authority that delivers or supports government operations and services, including health care operations and services.