



March 13, 2020

MEMORANDUM: COVID-19

This is an update regarding COVID-19 at this time (March 13, 2020 at 11:40 AM).

Because the health and safety for all participants in the BC Lacrosse community is of the utmost importance for the BC Lacrosse Association, this is central to any decision-making process. The words “leadership” and “flexibility” come to mind as we are all trying to navigate through this unsettling time.

The BC Health Minister Adrian Dix has issued a directive: “Effective today, we are also directing all event organizers to cancel any gathering larger than 250 people. This includes indoor and outdoor sporting events, conferences, meetings, religious gatherings or other similar events. This threshold has been selected, as it is much easier to maintain important social distancing to prevent transmission of COVID-19.” He has also stated that “anyone who chooses to travel outside of Canada will be asked to stay away from work or school for 14 days upon their return.” The number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in BC on March 13, 2020 at 9:00 AM is 53 people.

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0077-000484>

The Canadian Government (and specifically the PHAC) has assessed the public health risk associated with COVID-19 as low for the general population - <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>

The BC Lacrosse Association Board and Staff are reviewing and preparing contingency plans for upcoming BCLA activities (March-May), including coach and officials clinics, meetings, Team BC programs, etc. We will continue to update the BCLA membership on any changes as they arise.

We communicated through the Senior Directorate to Senior and Junior League Commissioners to recommend that they put their own contingency plans in place if lacrosse activities are required to be suspended/postponed.

Since the minor box tournament season begins in April, the BCLA Minor Directorate is putting a contingency plan in place should any of the upcoming tournaments be cancelled. Minor Box Lacrosse Associations should make their members aware of this possibility since there are financial implications for hosts and traveling teams, should this occur.

We are all in the same position as we slowly become more aware of how to handle all of the moving parts of the potential implications of COVID-19. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Otherwise, as mentioned, moving forward, we will keep you as informed as we are.

Further updated information regarding COVID-19 is available on the BC Centre for Disease Control website: <http://www.bccdc.ca/>

Sincerely,
Rochelle Winterton, Executive Director
BC Lacrosse Association