



## VCMT Communicable Disease Prevention Plan

Consistent with the Provincial Health Officer's Statement for Employers of June 17, 2021, VCMT is transitioning from their COVID Safety Plan to this Communicable Disease Prevention Plan, guided by WorkSafe BC's Communicable Disease Prevention guidelines.

This plan contains a strategy for reducing the risk of communicable disease and contains additional protocols to be enacted when the risk of communicable disease spread is elevated. COVID-19, norovirus and the seasonal flu are examples of such communicable diseases. While this plan is not required to be written or posted, VCMT will make this plan available to staff and students to increase transparency and to reduce the risk of communicable disease transmission.

### *Understanding the Risk*

- Sr. Management will monitor and follow Public Health bulletins and orders, adjusting on-campus protocols to match the level of risk communicated by the Provincial Health Officer and local health agencies.

### *Implementing Measures, Practices and Policies to Reduce Risk of Disease Transmission*

***VCMT will adopt the following practices to reduce the risk of disease transmission on campus:***

- Continue providing a Self Assessment tool for staff, students and patients to determine their health prior to coming onto campus. Compliance will be recommended, but will not be monitored.
- Require staff and students to remain home when they exhibit symptoms of a communicable disease.
- Require students/staff who exhibit symptoms of a communicable disease (e.g., fever or chills, coughing, diarrhea) to take the Ministry of Health's online self-assessment so they can avoid being at the workplace when sick. Where practical, classes will be broadcast over Zoom to allow the symptomatic individual to continue participating in their class(es) while at home.
- Encourage staff, students and patients to wash their hands regularly, provide hand-hygiene facilities to reduce transmission, and use signage to educate and remind all individuals to cover coughs and sneezes.
- Maintain a clean environment through routine cleaning practices consistent with CMTBC requirements and guidelines.
- Inform the VCMT community of local vaccine initiatives for vaccine-preventable illnesses.
- Adjust on-campus protocols to increase levels of safety as advised by Provincial Health and the CMTBC.

### *Communicating Practices and Protocols*

***VCMT will communicate its disease prevention measures as follows:***



- Through signage, the website, and by email to ensure that staff, students and patients are aware of the measures VCMT is taking with regard to communicable disease transmission prevention.
- Inform administrative and educational staff about the measures VCMT is taken to reduce communicable disease transmission so they are able to incorporate those practices into their administrative and instructional duties.
- Be mindful of privacy and confidentiality issues as prevention measures are communicated and adopted.

### ***Monitoring and Updating the Plan***

- VCMT Sr. Management will evaluate the effectiveness of its protocols and update measures to reflect changing levels of risk.
- VCMT's Sr. Administrator will be tasked with conducting inspections and providing oversight to ensure that measures are being followed and maintained.
- VCMT will adjust the Communicable Disease Plan so that it remains in compliance with recommendations and orders from Public Health.