

## **COVID Protocol**

All students at Northwest Culinary Academy of Vancouver will be learning in person. However, the Academy has reduced capacity by 50% and has implemented protocols to ensure that COVID safety is our top priority. Despite the action plan related to prevention, elimination and proactive sanitization of the school as outlined above, we recognize there always remains the potential for the spread of COVID-19 due to student proximity, regardless of best efforts in maintaining 6' distance and ensuring that masks and/or face shields are worn. In the event of confirmed cases of COVID-19 on school, Northwest's Health and Safety team will manage the situation with the following measures:

### **1. Ensure That Exposure Incidents are Reported.**

Individuals (faculty, staff, and students) are urged to report any exposure incidents to the school immediate, or [lena@nwca.v.com](mailto:lena@nwca.v.com) or call the main phone line at 604-876-7653 to report the incident.

### **2. Ensure that any students/faculty/staff/visitors who report symptoms of illness are not permitted on school.**

If an individual falls ill while on school, they are required to leave the school immediately and consult 811 for further guidance. If they cannot leave immediately, they are required to isolate in the Student Change Room (this room is not in use) until they can arrange transportation home. All surfaces that the affected individual touched will be cleaned and disinfected promptly by custodians.

### **3. Staff/Faculty/Student Compliance**

Individuals who think they may have been exposed to COVID-19, or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 must complete the BC self assessment tool and follow the recommendations of the assessment, which may require:

- a. Calling 811 for further screening or testing
- b. Self-isolation for 14 days (unless a negative test result is received)
- c. Self-monitoring for symptoms and return to normal activities

### **4. Staff or faculty in self-isolation will remain in contact with the school and are prohibited from visiting the school while in isolation.**

If a staff or faculty member has been diagnosed with COVID-19, they are prohibited from entering the school while contagious and under isolation orders. [www.bccdc.ca](http://www.bccdc.ca) guidelines for ending isolation recommend that those diagnosed with COVID-19:

- a. Must self-isolate for a minimum of 10 days since the onset of symptoms and,
- b. That fever is gone without using fever-reducing medications and,
- c. The individual must be feeling better (improvement and reduction in symptoms). NWCAV requires that an employee must submit a negative test result to [lena@nwca.v.com](mailto:lena@nwca.v.com) for approval prior to resuming work.

5. Students in self-isolation will be contacted by the school daily and must abide by the self-isolation plan they were provided with on the first day of class. Students in self-isolation are prohibited from coming to school. If a student has been diagnosed with COVID-19, they are prohibited from coming to school while contagious and under isolation orders. Bccdca.ca guidelines for ending isolation recommends that those diagnosed with COVID-19:

- a. Must self-isolate for a minimum of 10 days since the onset of symptoms and,
- b. That fever is gone without using fever-reducing medications and,
- c. The individual must be feeling better (improvement and reduction in symptoms). NWCAV requires that a student submit a medical clearance certificate to [lena@nwcaav.com](mailto:lena@nwcaav.com) for approval prior to resuming attendance. Wellness email checks are provided daily by the school and will include the provision of any missed material.

Students will ensure that they have the ability to self-isolate in their current housing situation. If not, they will be provided with alternative options (available at the student's expense) to remain isolated during their quarantine. Options include local hotels that are currently being underutilized and offering housing opportunities for those individuals in quarantine. School staff would assist the student, as required, in securing this accommodation (which could be required for anywhere from two to six weeks). One important consideration we have included in our interview process with students is to ensure that they have the resources to afford self-isolation for up to six weeks.

Other accommodations, will also be made for students as they recover, including:

- exam deferrals, attendance appeals
- withdrawal period will be extended for those individuals who fall ill within the first 20 days of class.
- videos of all demos
- opportunity to stay after class to practice missed recipes, upon their return

## **5. Record Keeping**

The Health and Safety Coordinator (or an NWCAV owner) will consult with the local B.C. Medical Health Officers if a positive case is determined, regarding COVID-19 case management and contact tracing protocols to indicate when a student was in attendance, which community they live in, and where they will be self-isolating. As well, we will inform them of our isolation check-in procedures.

Where a student, staff, or faculty member has been diagnosed with a confirmed case of COVID-19, Northwest will immediately restrict access to the building. The building will be completely disinfected and all classes will be suspended and staff, faculty and students in attendance will be required to go home immediately, and work from home for a period of 14 days since the first known occurrence of the outbreak. They are required to self-monitor for symptoms during the 14 days, and to follow the recommendations of the BC self assessment tool or call 811 should symptoms develop. Those students/staff/faculty who do not exhibit symptoms after 14 days will be permitted back on site to resume in-person instruction.

Following the outbreak, the ownership will hold a review of the current safety protocols and consult with involved staff, faculty, and students about changes in protocol. Emergency protocol and planning will continue to be reviewed and adapted over time.