

Hello to All of you.....

First and foremost I hope that you and your loved ones are keeping well.

We recognize that with the constantly changing COVID-19 situation around the world, this is an unprecedented time for everyone — a time that, for many, is filled with uncertainty.

Innovative LIFE Options is taking our responsibility to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 seriously.

The health and well-being of our community is of utmost importance to us. As the situation with COVID-19 is extremely dynamic we will continue to make proactive decisions that are grounded in care for ICOF Employers, support network members, family and our staff team. We are making decisions based on the most current information provided by our provincial and federal governments.

In an effort to be responsible to our community and the most vulnerable among us, we will be adjusting our procedures to accommodate the practice of social distancing as a response to COVID-19. In consultation with our board members, we have implemented some changes to our everyday routines.

- You may have noticed that our LIFE TEAM members have cancelled face to face meetings. We continue to encourage you to reach out to your Resource Coordinator through phone, email or video conferencing. They are happy and willing to work diligently alongside ICOF Employers, their support networks and families to provide the best guidance, resources and support.
- We have reduced our staffing at the office in Winnipeg. Our office manager, who is currently working from home will continue to respond to emails in a timely manner. We also will not have regularly opened office hours at this time.
- We have implemented weekly team telephone calls to update, review information, ask questions and support one another at this time. Our team is dedicated to providing excellent supports and will continue to educate ourselves, work together and do our best to calm any concerns you may have.
- At this time, the Family Gathering that was scheduled for April 17-April 18 has been postponed.

- The ICOF Spring Fling has also been postponed until a later date.

We are evaluating the current situation on a regular basis and will respond to changes in scheduling of future events as needed.

Thank you for your understanding and support. We encourage you to stay informed, calm and as healthy as possible.

Options for Services will continue to offer services via phone or email. Please don't hesitate to contact if you need administrative assistance. Please email [optionsforservices@icof-life.ca](mailto:optionsforservices@icof-life.ca)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your Resource Coordinator or please call me – we are here for you!

Here are some website that may provide you with information as well.

Public Health of Canada website

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health.html>

Province of Manitoba

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19>

Take Care Everyone! Keep calm and do not forget to be AWESOME!!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Chiappetta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Executive Director