

March 13, 2020

Dear International Parents and Agents,

We would like to provide you with a further update on the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). In the afternoon of March 12th, the BC Provincial Health Officer announced new policy changes as below that will affect travel:

- **Any families, students or staff who travel outside of Canada during Spring Break will be expected to self-isolate for 14 days before returning to a site at the Abbotsford School District.**

Our expectations for Spring Break travel continue to be:

- International students are discouraged from travel to Hubei Province, China. Those who choose to travel to Hubei Province will not be permitted to return to Abbotsford School District's International Program.
- International students returning from other parts of China and other countries listed above, or International students meeting with any individual from those areas in any other country must be in self-quarantine for 14 days upon return to Abbotsford. Those who develop symptoms should call their health-care provider or 8-1-1- to discuss any need for testing and follow up.
- International students who choose to be in close contact with another person that is in self-quarantine or has been diagnosed with the virus must also be in self-quarantine for 14 days.

District homestay will not be provided to any student during the 14-day self-quarantine period. It will be the responsibility of the student and natural parents to find a safe and appropriate placement for this two-week period. Please note, as per our International Program Agreement, international students must reside with a responsible adult age 25 or older. International students are not permitted to stay by themselves or stay at a commercial accommodation such as a hotel or Air B&B. This applies to all international students in district homestay or in a private homestay arrangement.

At this time, the Ministry of Education has advised all school districts that there are no plans for school closures. This is an evolving global situation, and as such we need to be prepared between now and return to school on March 30th, as there likely will be more changes to the situation.

Regular updates will be added to the school district's website. Please check this space routinely:

<https://www.abbschools.ca/announcement/novel-coronavirus-covid-19>

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Respectfully,



Elizabeth Cho-frede
Manager, International Student Program