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## NEWS & EVENTS

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- [CSSEA Newsletters](#)
- [CEO Update](#)

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## COVID-19 AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES



The provincial government has reinforced its funding commitment to the social services sector in light of potential disruptions caused by COVID-19. In a message from **David Galbraith, Deputy Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction**, he confirmed that provincial funding arrangements with contracted social services providers remain in place. Employers are asked to keep the lines of communication with their funding ministry or agency open, and are advised to consult funders to determine ways to adapt programs so services can still be delivered safely. If, after consultation with government, it is determined that services should be reduced or suspended due to the threat of COVID-19 transmission, employers will continue to receive funding. Employers are expected to pay staff and operating expenses with this continued funding. Those who experience increased costs due to staff shortages, increased overtime, or increases in client demand due to COVID-19 can receive incremental funding through to April 30, 2020. More information on funding for social services employers is expected next week.

## UNIONS PROPOSING LOCAL AGREEMENTS

CSSEA continues to remain actively engaged with government and the Union Bargaining Association and will provide updates as they become available. In the meantime, **we remind employers not to sign individual agreements with unions**. Any negotiations to vary the collective agreements must be done by or authorized by CSSEA. If members are approached by unions proposing an agreement, please notify your CSSEA Consultant or Advocate.

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CSSEA - A leader in Human Resources and Labour Relations and a trusted advisor to our membership and government  
for the community social services sector of British Columbia.

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