



COVID-19 Pandemic Update – April 7, 2020

Spring normally signifies a season of new beginnings, hope and renewal. During this uncertain time, the Aventa Staff Team are diligently working together to ensure the best outcomes for our Clients, and we remain optimistic about the future as we all navigate the new normal.

Aventa continues to monitor the COVID-19 Pandemic closely while our agency remains open, and we continue to provide critical addiction services to women from Alberta and NWT. We have admitted several women into our Phase II and YAT programs during the past week.

Aventa Staff, led by our Executive Director and Management Team, have implemented protocols and procedures, and adjusted our programming schedules and program delivery, so that we can continue to minimize health and safety risk to our Clients and Staff. We remain flexible and responsive to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and are committed to providing our Clients with understanding, supportive and compassionate care during this changing time.

There are no reports of COVID-19 at any of our facilities, and we are prepared to manage any potential cases. Aventa has a strong and collaborative relationship with the Alberta Government, Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services. This allows us to easily coordinate with experts, and implement new health and safety protocols as they evolve, sometimes on a daily basis as needed.

Aventa continues its rigorous health and safety protocols by ensuring Clients and Staff are screened daily and physical distancing continues at all times throughout each day, whether in group sessions, participating in Client activities, eating or sleeping. While staying inside can be difficult to do, our Clients have turned the challenge as an opportunity to put their creative skills to work and have made some incredibly beautiful crafts, coloring projects and artwork. Their gratitude, positive outlook and uplifting spirit inspire us all!

Clients in our live-in programs are accessing online Recovery Meetings such as AA, CMA, NA, Coda, Recovery Dharma and Wellbriety. Clients have phone, computer and internet access, are able to participate in telephone and Skype visits with loved ones. Aventa's Family Program, Parenting Program, Journeys Program and our FASD Transitions Program continue to be offered on-site with Clients, and on the telephone and by Skype with family members. We are providing online support and individual telephone sessions and support to Clients from the NWT, Clients in our Continuing Care Program and Clients on our wait list. Aventa will continue to intake additional Clients in our 42- or 90-day live-in programs in the near future. Our rigorous assessment and screening process will allow us to continue to provide continued health and safety for Aventa Clients and Staff. All assessments will continue by phone.

We recognize that community restrictions and physical distancing can create even greater challenges to those returning home following inpatient treatment. Aventa's Clinical Team provides each Client with a discharge and safety plan that includes a comprehensive network of support, following treatment. We understand how critically important it is for women to remain connected and able to access additional



supports throughout the recovery journey, especially at the most vulnerable time immediately following treatment.

We understand that the COVID-19 Pandemic impacts individuals, families and communities, but we are confident that by working together, practising recommended health and safety protocols, we will all get through this together.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Aventa at 403-245-9050 for more information. We will continue to provide regular updates as the situation develops. If you require additional addiction related support for yourself or loved one, please contact the 24/7 Alberta Addiction Helpline at 1-866-332-2322.

For the latest Alberta Government COVID19 Updates please see: <https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>

Best Regards,

Kim Turgeon
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Aventa Centre of Excellence
for Women with Addictions