

Updated: April 8, 2020

## **Common Questions and Answers for families regarding Special Needs Agreements and Voluntary Care Agreements**

**Q1: I have a Special Needs Agreement/Voluntary Care Agreement; do I need to continue maintenance payments?**

**A:** Maintenance payments on all Special Needs Agreements (SNAs) and Voluntary Care Agreements (VCAs) will be suspended (until June 24th, 2020) without the need for repayment.

If your family's financial circumstances have changed following the temporary suspension period, Maintenance Agreements can be reviewed with your Guardian Worker to determine if a change to the Agreement to pay Maintenance is appropriate.

**Q.2: What measures are being taken to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to my child in Care?**

**A:** MCFD is continuing to support caregivers to implement the recommendations of the Provincial Health Officer and BC Center for Disease Control including limiting the number of people providing care to children and contact with non household members. Specialised Residential Care facilities also follow guidelines outlined by Community Care Licensing.

**Q3: What if I (parent or caregiver) get sick and need to quarantine myself? Who will look after my child with extra support needs?**

**A3:** MCFD will work with families to develop alternate ways to use respite funding and other supports/services to best meet their needs. Federal and Provincial COVID-19 financial supports and benefits can also help alleviate financial pressure if you become ill or need to quarantine.