
Communicable Diseases

Policy Number:	A-2.01
Category:	Administration
Effective Date:	June 11, 2020
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POLICY

The College promotes a safe and healthy environment for all on its campuses. All employees and students are responsible to mitigate or minimize the effects of serious communicable diseases. The College will ensure employees and students are informed in what approved methods of dealing with and/or preventing the occurrence of communicable diseases, are to be used based on applicable health authorities guidance and or direction.

PURPOSE

To establish guidelines and procedures in accordance with BC Centre of Disease Control and Worksafe BC to reduce the risk of infection and spread of a communicable disease.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all Northern Lights College employees and students

PROCEDURE

The following strategies will be employed in dealing with and/or preventing the occurrence of communicable diseases:

- The College will monitor and assess communicable disease outbreaks throughout the world and keep up with latest knowledge and developments through BC government sources – how the disease is recognized, spread; vectors, signs and symptoms, incubation periods, and periods of communicability.
- The College will provide members of the college community with the best information available.
- The College will follow the medical advice and direction from the appropriate medical authorities (Northern Health, Provincial Health Officer, BC Centre for Disease Control, and Health Canada).
- The College will keep informed of the recommendations on travel from Health Canada and educate and inform staff and students as needed.
- The College will establish operational guidelines and protocols to address specific communicable diseases as required.

- Individuals who have or suspect they may have a communicable disease are expected to report their concerns to the appropriate health authority.
- Pursuant to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the College will take all reasonable steps to protect the privacy of individuals who have communicable diseases. In administering this policy, the College will not disclose the identity of any individual who has a communicable disease, except as authorized or required by law. The College may be required to disclose personal information if there is a risk of significant harm to the health and safety of the public, a group of people, if requested by the medical health officer or designate under the Public Health Act.

DEFINITIONS

Communicable Disease: means an illness, due to a specific infectious agent or its toxic products, which arises through the transmission of that agent or its product

- (a) directly from an infected person or animal, or
- (b) indirectly through the agency of an intermediate host vector or the inanimate environment

STAKEHOLDERS

Northern Lights College employees and students

RELATED POLICIES AND REFERENCES

Northern Lights College Exposure Control Plan – COVID-19

H-1.10 Health and Safety

H-2.04 Release of Information (Staff and Students)

Public Health Act

http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/08028_01

Health Act Communicable Disease Regulation

http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/loo84/loo84/12_4_83

History

Created/Revised/Reviewed	Date	Author	Approved By
Created	June 2006		
Reviewed	September 2008		
Revised/Reviewed	June 11, 2020	VP Finance & Corporate Services	College Policy Committee

Next Scheduled Review Date

June 2025