

August 23, 2021

Sent via email: Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca

Lori Wanamaker

Deputy Minister to the Premier

Cabinet Secretary and Head of the BC Public Service

On July 20th you wrote to members of the public service and advised as follows:

"those who wish to continue working from home will need to have an approved telework agreement in place by September 7, 2021 using the corporate template provided by the BC Public Service Agency. This aligns with the anticipated date for the transition to Step 4 of the provincial Restart Plan, and it provides ample time for you to work through establishing or updating telework agreements with your supervisor..."

The announcements today from Premier Horgan, Minister of Health Dix and Dr Henry all cast doubt on the readiness of the province to move to stage 4 of the BC restart plan in September.

In light of this, and on behalf of the 30,000 members of the public service I am calling for a delay of the September 7th date for those who are currently working at home.

Also and in light of the fact that many members of the public service have continued to work from their worksites throughout the entire pandemic, including the BC Liquor Distribution Branch – LDB, I would like to restate our request that you mandate the use of appropriate masks in all public areas of public service worksites. This is of particular concern given the fact that BCGEU public service members are required to provide essential services to all people regardless of their vaccination status.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and as always I am available to discuss this if you desire.

Yours truly

On behalf of PSBC

Paul Finch Treasurer

ME/AR/JCS