



Virtual physician visits to become permanent

Effective immediately, new billing codes for “virtual” patient visits via telephone and video calls introduced for the pandemic will become permanent.

In March, government introduced new and expanded billing codes for virtual care to aid in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Virtual care has been an important part of our COVID-19 response, protecting patients, doctors, and clinic staff by providing an alternative to office visits that avoids the risk of contact with the virus. These visits have proved their value, so we’re making them permanent, to allow physicians and patients to keep using them as appropriate while being fairly compensated.”

-Tyler Shandro, Minister of Health

All existing rules for virtual care codes remain in place.

Quick facts

- Permanent billing codes include patient visits, consultations, and mental health services provided over the phone or through secure video conference.
- In-person physician and specialist care will continue. Virtual services will be offered by physicians and specialists where appropriate.
- These permanent virtual codes will not be subject to the daily patient visit cap.
- Details of the changes are communicated in Bulletin 231.
- Rates vary depending on specialty and service, and are the same as current basic in-person rates.

Media inquiries

Steve Buick

780-288-1735

Press Secretary, Health



Education for Life Bursary

To mark the occasion of our 25th anniversary in 1998, Voice of Albertans with Disabilities initiated the Education for Life Bursary program. With this program, we support students who have a disability to achieve their post-secondary goals. Submit a completed application form to VAD by July 15. Information available at:

<https://vadsociety.ca/support/bursaries>



VAD Membership Drive

VAD had determined that the 2020-2021 membership drive will be postponed until September 2020. With the pandemic, it does not seem reasonable to expect organizations to be running as usual and therefore VAD is postponing the membership drive. Thank you to the organizations that have already paid their 2020-2021 membership fees. Your support is greatly appreciated.

I Need to Get my Will, Power of Attorney, and Personal Directives in Place...

But I am Concerned About my Personal Safety .

I am so pleased to share an important development in the law with you all!

The standard procedure required to create personal estate documents provides that lawyers and their clients need to meet in person at least once to execute the documents. The legal community has worked diligently to address concerns faced by members of the public during our current state of awareness of our vulnerability and exposure to illness amid the



www.vadsociety.ca; vad@vadsociety.ca
 Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @VADisabilities

importance of ensuring that everyone have equal access to legal services they require. Consequently, procedures have just been approved that allow lawyers and their clients to sign wills, powers of attorneys, and personal directives remotely. It is worth noting that remote signing is only valid if done through a lawyer, and that these procedures require lawyers to be increasingly diligent in their meetings with clients to obtain and review instructions, ensure that the clients have capacity to create the documents they are requesting, and confirm clients are acting on their own accord. For many lawyers and clients, meeting in person with appropriate safety precautions may continue, but it is comforting to know that there are accommodations in place to ensure it is possible to satisfy the needs of everyone.

If you are interested in learning more, I am happy to answer any questions have. Do not hesitate to contact me by email at tracys@masuchlaw.com or by phone at 780 454 9494.



Tracy Spilde,
 Lawyer Masuch Law LLP



Dementia Training Alberta Early Onset Dementia Alberta Foundation (EODAF)

Sunny Deol, a registered Physiotherapist & Owner for Pursuit of Motion Physiotherapy is pleased to partner with Early Onset Dementia Alberta Foundation to present the following Free Zoom Webinar Training Sessions:

- Session Two: June 13, 20 10:00 AM
 Strengthening the Lower Body
- Session Three: June 20, 20 10:00 AM
 Strengthening the Upper Body



Please register with rep@eodaf.com. Registration deadline will be the Thurs prior to each session. The link to get onto the session is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84114419921>.

Alberta to move to stage two a week earlier than expected



Alberta is moving to the second stage of its provincial relaunch on Friday, a week earlier than expected, Premier Jason Kenney announced Tuesday.

Stage two will allow the reopening of K-12 schools for exams and summer school, libraries, community halls, wellness and personal services such as massage, reflexology and nail treatments, movie and live theatres, indoor recreational facilities including gyms and arenas, team sports, pools for leisure swimming, casinos and bingo halls.

Alberta to move to stage two of relaunch on Friday, a week earlier than expected.

The 50 per cent capacity limit at restaurants, places of worship and provincial campgrounds is also being lifted.

Indoor social gatherings such as weddings and funerals can take place with a cap of 50 people, up from 15. Outdoor gatherings will be expanded from 50 to 100 people.

Public health orders such as keeping two-metres of physical distancing and increased hygiene will remain throughout phase two. The number of active cases and hospitalizations has continued to decline even as the reopening has expanded and testing has increased, Kenney said at an afternoon news conference.

https://edmontonjournal.com/news/politics/covid-19-kenney-to-give-update-on-albertas-relaunch-plans-at-1230-p-m?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR3hfThmOZB8meVTHUC-MfRUPhh4iStP4HpiXelZYtICo2aSfpxvjzi_E#Echobox=1591718610



Together, We Hold the Power!

Full Participation - Accessibility - Equity



www.vadsociety.ca; vad@vadsociety.ca
 Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @VADisabilities



Brain Injury Awareness Month

An opportunity to bring attention to the effects of brain injuries and the measures to take to help prevent them. Brain injuries can occur at all ages and be caused by trauma from falls, car accidents, sports, assaults or other health issues, such as experiencing a stroke. Each year in Canada, more than 20,000 people are hospitalized for traumatic brain injuries, which can range from mild to severe and include concussions.

You are invited to join the Banff Centre for Arts & Creativity in celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Day virtually on June 21 with a rich and unique immersion in Treaty 7 arts and culture. FREE events and workshops:

- Drawn to Nature Online Workshop led by Alberta Rose W/Inguk
- Domestic Mark Making Printmaking Workshop led

by Laura Grier

- Live Stream Music Performance by Juno-nominated Celeigh Cardinal
- Film Screenings: OChiSkwaCho by Jules Koostachin, and films from the Stoney Nakoda AV Club



BANFF
 CENTRE
 FOR ARTS AND
 CREATIVITY

Together, We Hold the Power!

Full Participation - Accessibility - Equity



www.vadsociety.ca; vad@vadsociety.ca
 Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @VADisabilities

Senior's PRIDE Week

PERFORMER LINEUP

HAKKA MEI!



Dominique



Artasia



And Many More!

Update: Fruitloop: Pride at Home



FRUITLOOP HOSTING VIRTUAL PRIDE EVENTS!

You may be staying at home this Pride, but that does not mean that you can't be a part of the fun! "As part of the annual Pride season, Fruit Loop has traditionally hosted an in-person celebration featuring a dynamic group of performers, outstanding community partners and an amazing audience."

Join us on Saturday June 13 from 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm

"We live stream an incredible cast of performers direct from The Starlite Room in downtown Edmonton!"

"Performances and appearances by Cedar Wildcat, Duke Carson, Artasia, Bea Lissima, Hakka Mei, Dominique Kinisky, and many more!"

To Join:

Contact Seniors@pridecentreofedmonton.ca or phone 587-635-2169 and we will update you with a link to join on the morning of June 13!

SHADES OF COLOR OFFERS ONLINE CHECK INS!

Shades of Colour (SOC) is a APIRG group that exists to advocate for queer and trans Black folks, Indigenous folks, and people of colour. We meet bi weekly to eat food together, share resources and support each other*Please dm us for the ID link*

"Every other Saturday @3 -5ish pm MST"

"Every other Saturday we will be hosting informal weekly online group check in's every Wednesday for QTBIPOC & BIPOC who are self isolating or unable to leave their homes and need to hear human voices."

**bipoc & qtbi poc
 bi-weekly
 community
 check-in**
 3 PM ALTERNATING SATURDAYS

Please send us an email at seniors@pridecentreofedmonton.ca so that we can connect you with this group!

Together, We Hold the Power!
Full Participation - Accessibility - Equity



www.vadsociety.ca; vad@vadsociety.ca
 Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @VADisabilities

Senior's PRIDE Week

Southside Edmonton Primary Care Network, and The Aging Wellness Initiative

AGING WITH PRIDE

A telephone-based supportive space to connect with other 2SLGBTQ+ seniors

Happy Seniors week and Pride! **PROGRAM GUIDE**
 JUNE 3 - JUNE 26, 2020

INTERGENERATIONAL MUSIC NIGHTS!
WITH EVAN WESTFAL!
 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 4 - 5 PM

Evan Westfal (pronouns he/him) is the Education Coordinator for the Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services (ISMSS). As Education Coordinator, Westfal frequently guest lectures for many post-secondary institutions and community organizations throughout Alberta. In addition to his guest lecturing, Westfal runs FYrefly in schools (FINS) an education program that promotes sexual and gender diversity education in Elementary Schools, as well as both Junior and Senior Highschools. Westfal facilitates the Edmonton and Area GSA Roundtables in partnership with the Pride Centre of Edmonton.

INTERGENERATIONAL MUSIC NIGHTS!
WITH EMMET MICHAEL!
 FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Introspective and enthralling, with equal parts grit and grace, Emmet Michael is a musician who was built on his trials. Turning to music in his darkest times, he found solace in his ability to share his heart with others through his lyrics.

Drawing on his experience of transitioning from female to male, living with mental illness, and battling addiction, his songs carry a tone of desperation and sorrow. With soulful melodies and heart wrenching lyrics, his music conveys a message that is both powerful and vulnerable. Entirely unique, yet familiar.

2SLGBTQ+ MOVIE CLUB WATCHING
 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 7 - 9 PM

Watch a show online with us or in your own time on the experiences of older 2SLGBTQ+ adults! We have a wide selection of movies to choose from, so be sure to join us on June 10th to pick a movie of your choice!

2SLGBTQ+ MOVIE DISCUSSION!
 FRIDAY JUNE 12, 5 - 7 PM

We will come together on Aging with Pride to discuss what the movie selected this week meant to you!

WEAVINGS: SPIRITUAL HEALTH
 WEDNESDAY JUNE 17, 6 - 7 PM

We will be sharing our favourite tunes that speak to the experience of finding ourselves, and/or have shaped our community over the ages. Come find some new music to listen to and groove with other likeminded folks!

WEAVINGS: SPIRITUAL HEALTH, ACT 2!
 FRIDAY JUNE 19, 10 - 12 AM

Ingredients for a healthy spiritual life for 2SLGBTQ+ seniors! Hosted by Denise-Davis Taylor, Bisexual diaconal Minister at the United Church of Canada, Currently working at the U of A and in Congregational ministry. Co-facilitator for Weavings of Body, mind and Spirit at the Landing, a student space for gender and sexual diversity.

THE BOOK OF PRIDE
 LGBTQ HEROES WHO CHANGED THE WORLD
 MASON FUNK

2SLGBTQ+ BOOK CLUB
 WEDNESDAY JUNE 24, 6 - 7 PM

What better way to spend time social distancing than catching up on a good novel and talking about it with friends? Read a book beforehand, and join us on Aging with Pride to discuss what the book means to you. We will be choosing between several prominent older adult based 2SLGBTQ+ books on June 24th, so make sure you are there!

SENIORS COFFEE AND CHAT!
 FRIDAY JUNE 26, 10 - 12 AM

Take a break and have a sip of coffee (or tea!) with other likeminded 2SLGBTQ+ Older Adults and Elders in Edmonton, Alberta and across the prairies! We will have the opportunity to chat about our topics covered in our weekly events, learn more about resources near you, and play online games!

To participate:
 call toll-free at
 1-855-703-8985
 and enter the
 meeting ID 293
 631 2402

Please sign up here:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/T8GX65G



Together, We Hold the Power!
 Full Participation - Accessibility - Equity



www.vadsociety.ca; vad@vadsociety.ca
Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @VADisabilities



Human Rights & Dementia Town Hall - June 29

Dementia Dialogue began to enable people with dementia and their care/life partners to share experiences and thus enable their peer listeners to understand and gain insight into their own experience and strengthen their adaptive skills.

The series has evolved and given how COVID-19 has illuminated some serious gaps in our system of care for people with dementia, the podcast has launched a new series that explores the intersection of dementia and human rights. This series explores how a human rights approach leads to stronger values on which we can renew the way we support people living with dementia. Co-hosted by Mary Beth Wighton, from Dementia Advocacy Canada and Jillian McConnell, of the brainXchange, we will be looking at topics illuminated by the Dementia Dialogue Human Rights series. <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/human-rights-dementia-town-hall-tickets-108093701170?fbclid=IwAR2QDonMotfox9NwVGXL39H7OJvxscr5KH825Wfvk0sLmWad-witmN9BsHR8>

June is PRIDE month

PRIDE is the promotion of the self-affirmation, dignity, equality, and increased visibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people as a social group. Pride, as opposed to shame and social stigma, is the predominant outlook that bolsters most LGBT rights movements.



Women With Disabilities Calendar

Mirella is creating a calendar celebrating women with physical disabilities, if you are interested in participating or would like more information, you can reach out to her at: www.mirellaisacco.com and leave her a message.



AGM POSTPONED

It is with regret that we find it necessary to postpone our Annual General Meeting booked for Thursday June 11, 2020. We worked hard to ensure that all of our mechanisms were ready that we had control of; unfortunately, a couple of necessary components will not be prepared by this deadline. Although I was optimistic about moving forward past the parameters of the pandemic, there will continue to be an alteration to business as usual for a few months to come.

As soon as we have those documents in our possession, we will advertise our membership and the Annual General Meeting via the Zoom platform. At this time, the terms of the current board of directors will be extended until the 2020 AGM where we will recognize incoming and outgoing board members.



Together, We Hold the Power!

Full Participation - Accessibility - Equity