

April 24, 2020

Dear BCSLA Members and Associates.

COVID-19 novel coronavirus precautions and practices have now become the “new normal” for all of us. While we recognize that this will end someday, it is important to realize the severity of the situation in which we are all finding ourselves. When possible, staying at home is the best way for our Members, Associates and our Community to stay safe and healthy.

#### The Updated Essential Workplaces List

On April 3, 2020 the BC Government updated the Essential Workplace List. This list was developed by Emergency Management BC in consultation with other government ministries and the Provincial Health Officer (PHO). In consultation with the PHO, essential services should and are encouraged to remain open. This list may be updated as government’s response to COVID-19 evolves. Also, view the Province of [BC Guidance to construction sites](#) operating during COVID-19. In a Provincial State of Emergency, the Provincial Health Officer can make orders as needed. You must follow the [Orders, Notices & Guidance](#)

#### Short Survey to Members on Impact of COVID-19

To ensure the BCSLA is providing the support most important to our Members and Associates during these challenging and changing times, please complete the short survey. There are eight questions and should take two to three minutes to complete. This will only allow one response per device – if multiple LA’s live in a household – they need to use separate devices to respond. Deadline: Please complete by April 24, 2020

#### Continuing Education (CE)

To ensure the BCSLA is supporting Members and Associates during these challenging and changing times, we have compiled a list of free online learning resources that will be circulated on Wednesdays by email. The BCSLA has continued to work with our BCSLA Affiliates, conference exhibitors and other loyal supporters to find ways to connect them with our Members and Associates. The CE Committee will meet online soon to discuss other CE opportunities, and if YOU have any ideas, please email them to the Office.

#### BCSLA Office

To ensure the safety and well-being of our community, and in support for public health objectives, the BCSLA offices were closed March 18, 2020. Staff are working remotely to maintain BCSLA programs services and activities. The BCSLA Board of Directors will take guidance from the Province and City regarding when we can re-open the office. The office will remain fully functional remotely, by contacting Tara Culham, BCSLA Executive Director, by email at admin@bcsla.org or 604.682.5610 or 604.715.9655. Outside the (604) – Toll Free in Canada and US: (855) 682-5610

In order to go forward and continue to provide our membership with up-to-date information on the impact of COVID-19, BCSLA Board of Directors and staff are monitoring various government websites:

[World Health Organization Updates](#)  
[Government of Canada](#)  
[Government of BC – COVID-19 Information](#)  
[BC Centre for Disease Control](#)  
[HealthLink BC](#)

The BCSLA Membership has grown as a family and what affects one of our Members and Associates impacts us all. As we face this pandemic, we face it together by following recommendations to keep us all, our families, and our communities safe and healthy now, and in the future.

Yours sincerely,  
**BC Society of Landscape Architects**

**BCSLA Board of Directors**