

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ORDER OF THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND
SOLICITOR GENERAL

Emergency Program Act

Ministerial Order No. M133

WHEREAS a declaration of a state of emergency throughout the whole of the Province of British Columbia was declared on March 18, 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic;

AND WHEREAS the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic to the health, safety and welfare of people has resulted in guidelines, recommendations and requirements to limit in-person contacts;

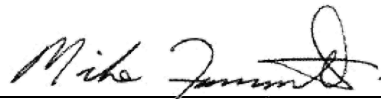
AND WHEREAS it is in the public interest to ensure that the effects of the emergency are alleviated in relation to assistance or appeals under the *Employment and Assistance Act* and the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act*;

AND WHEREAS section 10 (1) of the *Emergency Program Act* provides that I may do all acts and implement all procedures that I consider necessary to prevent, respond to or alleviate the effects of any emergency or disaster;

I, Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, order that the attached Employment and Assistance (COVID-19) Order is made.

April 28, 2020

Date



Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

(This part is for administrative purposes only and is not part of the Order.)

Authority under which Order is made:

Act and section: *Emergency Program Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 111, s. 10

Other: OIC 173/2020

EMPLOYMENT AND ASSISTANCE (COVID-19) ORDER

Application

- 1 This order applies during the period that starts on the date this order is made and ends on the date on which the last extension of the declaration of a state of emergency made March 18, 2020 under section 9 (1) of the *Emergency Program Act* expires or is cancelled.

Verbal communications

- 2 Any requirement under the *Employment and Assistance Act* or the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act* to provide or do any of the following may be satisfied by verbal means or verbal confirmation:
 - (a) to provide information or to agree, confirm or designate in writing, or in any specified form, in relation to eligibility for assistance under either the *Employment and Assistance Act* or the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act* or an appeal under either of those Acts to the Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunal;
 - (b) to sign a record or agreement.

Suspension of requirements relating to other sources of income

- 3 It is not required, under section 7 (2) (b) [*effect of applicant applying for other sources of income*] of the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Regulation*, B.C. Reg. 265/2002, for an applicant to satisfy the minister that a direction has been completed in accordance with section 7 (3) of that regulation.