



March 24, 2020

Re: Message from the Executive Director

Dear Community Member,

Over the last two weeks HSCA has implemented voluntary and mandatory actions to help slow the spread of COVID-19. This has included closing our doors entirely on March 17, 2020. As our revenue has been severely impacted, and will continue to be, with all of our operations on-hold indefinitely, we have had no choice but to make the very difficult decision of implementing temporary layoffs.

This decision will help HSCA to ensure that it can re-open when this crisis passes and that at that time we can continue offering programs and services to residents of Hillhurst Sunnyside and beyond. When we are able to resume operations, we have every intention of bringing back our full team of passionate and hardworking individuals.

During this time of very limited capacity, all HSCA programs and services will be on hold and you will see a decrease to our social media presence, content in newsletters will be minimal and most HSCA phone lines and email will not be monitored. If you have an urgent matter, please contact Executive Director Kate Stenson at kate.s@hsca.ca.

This is an uncertain time for HSCA and we know it is for the community around us too. This will be a test to the community and we know that the communities of Hillhurst and Sunnyside can step up to the challenge. For most, this simply means, staying home and limiting all contact with anyone outside of your immediate family. While this may not feel like an act of community and may feel isolating, please remember that by staying in, you could be saving a neighbour's life. And while you're home there are ways you can get involved and support those around you. This may be as simple as picking up the phone to check on someone, participating in window scavenger hunts or leaving a note in a neighbour's mailbox letting them know they can call on you if they need to. This pandemic is forcing us to re-think what an act of community looks like, but the meaning behind these acts has not changed, so let's not stop acting. Everyone has a part to play and the roles we choose to play now will affect the community we are during and on the other side of this crisis.

Thank you for doing your part. In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kate Stenson", with a wavy underline.

Kate Stenson
Executive Director
Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Association