



COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

HOW CAN YOUTH IN AND FROM CARE FIND INFORMATION, UPDATES AND CONNECTION DURING COVID-19?

WHAT WE KNOW

IF YOU ARE A

- Youth in foster care
- Youth in a group home or other residential facility
- Youth on Independent Living
- Youth on a Youth Agreement
- Youth on AYA

Information and updates have been sent to social worker or AYA worker to be passed on to you.

Talk with your AYA or social worker to explore options for tech if you feel your current phone, computer, etc. isn't working for you or you currently don't have access to internet, phone, or computer.

MCFD offices are still open and young people can go in and talk to a worker.

IF YOU ARE A

- Youth in foster care
- Youth in a group home or other residential facility
- Youth on Independent Living
- Youth on a Youth Agreement
- Youth on AYA
- Former youth in care
- Youth who has recently left care
- Youth leaving care

MCFD has created a **YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS** page on their website with information for youth during COVID-19. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/covid-19-information/youth-young-adults-response-to-covid-19>

Check out **AGEDOUT.COM'S COVID-19 INFO PAGE** with information and updates on resources that might be available to you. <https://agedout.com/health-and-wellness/covid-19>

IF YOU ARE A

- Youth who has recently left care

MCFD's extension of supports are retroactive to folks who have aged out since January 1, 2020. These young people can connect with the Ministry at **1-800-663-9122** or contact their last DAA/MCFD office to talk about their options and what supports might be available to them.

MCFD is also working with advocacy groups and other agencies to connect with these young people by leveraging social media and asking them to refer youth to their **Youth and Young Adults page** (link below) or **AgedOut.com** for additional information.

IF YOU ARE A

- Youth on AYA
- Youth leaving care
- Youth who has recently left care
- Former youth in care

The **TELUS MOBILITY FOR GOOD** program is a partnership between MCFD, TELUS and the Children's Aid Foundation of Canada. It offers youth who were in care (continuing, temporary, or a Youth Agreement) when they turned 19 or who are eligible for AYA with a free phone and 2-year data plan at no cost. After the 2 years is up, you can continue to have a low cost, \$35/month plan. <https://www.telus.com/en/about/company-overview/community-investment/how-we-give/cause-campaigns/mobility-for-good>

If you're not eligible for the Telus Mobility for Good program and you're still connected to a social worker, contact them to see what supports might be available to you.

Telus has also provided MCFD with a limited number of cell phones for young people. Contact your social worker to see if you're eligible.

For more information on MCFD's response to COVID-19 for youth in and from care, visit <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/covid-19-information/youth-young-adults-response-to-covid-19>

WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED WHILE PHYSICAL DISTANCING

1. **REACH OUT FRIENDS AND FAMILY.** Make Skype or Facetime or Houseparty or phone dates.
2. Try to remember that even though we might be physically alone, **WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.**
3. **CHECK OUT AGEDOUT.COM LIFE ESSENTIALS HANGOUTS** where youth can come together on Zoom and support each other. <https://agedout.com/health-and-wellness/covid-19>
4. **CHECK OUT FED CONNECTS!** Our new program provides virtual content to support youth to come together, build community and learn new things. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1621276191346697/about>