

October 2, 2018

Dear Principal,

Re: Changes to access for the Free Eye Glass Program

We are writing to inform you of a change to the Free Eye Glass program previously provided by Vancouver Community for children from low income families. Given that the Ministry of Health provides funding for this service through other, non-Health Authority sources, we will no longer provide this particular service. The following programs may be accessed to support families who are unable to afford the cost of eye glasses:

- Families receiving social assistance can apply through their local <u>Ministry of Child and Family</u>
 <u>Development office.</u>
- The <u>BC Healthy Kids Program</u> also helps low-income families with the basic cost of eye ware for children.
- Children enrolled in kindergarten may also be eligible to access one free pair of eye glasses through the BC Doctors of Optometry program <u>Eye See ... Eye Learn</u>

Please share this information with your school administrative staff. Up-to-date information on this and other VCH programs and services that are available to all schools in Vancouver can be found in the <u>School Health Manual</u>.

Yours Sincerely,

Lizzy Ambler

Operations Director, Public Health, Child & Youth

Mental Health and Substance Use

604-708-5286