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PIERCING AND TATTOOING SERVICES

WHAT TO LOOK FOR AND ASK:

- You have the right to ask the Personal Service Worker (PSW) to explain how they clean and disinfect their equipment before the service begins.
- The business must have a sink with liquid soap and paper towels for the PSW to wash and dry their hands.
- The PSW must wash their hands before they touch you.
- A new pair of disposable gloves must be used during piercing or tattooing.
- Needles and needle bars must be pre-packaged and sterile; and should be opened by the PSW in front of you.
- The needles and needle bars are to be used only once, and then thrown out into a special container (sharps container).
- Razor blades are to be used only once, and then thrown out into a sharps container.
- Jewellery must be pre-packaged and sterile; and should be opened by the PSW in front of you.
- Before being pierced or tattooed, your skin must first be disinfected using an antiseptic solution, such as 70% isopropyl alcohol or an iodine-based solution.

SAFE HEALING:

- After your service, the PSW should give you verbal and written instructions on how to take care of your piercing or tattoo.
- It is important to follow the instructions given to you by the PSW as infection can be caused by poor aftercare.
- Wash your hands before touching your piercing or tattoo.
- Make sure that your new tattoo is covered with an individually packaged bandage intended for covering wounds.
- If your piercing or tattoo becomes painful, red, or inflamed, see a doctor.