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Sent: May 28, 2021 12:32 PM

To: GVRDall <gvrddall@metrovanancouver.org>

Cc: 'GVRD Employees' Union Office' <gvrdeu@telus.net>; Karlene Bateman <kbateman@teamsters31.ca>; Chair Dhaliwal <chair@metrovanancouver.org>; Linda Buchanan <lbuchanan@cnv.org>

Subject: Metro Vancouver Update - May 28, 2021

Dear Staff,

I wanted to provide a quick update as I know many of you will have seen the positive news from our Provincial Health Officer regarding BC's Restart Plan and may be wondering what this means for us here at Metro Vancouver.

As you are aware, the plan involves 4 stages (*a summary of this plan follows below this email*) that intends to relax many restrictions for September, with appropriate protocols and safety plans in place.

Please know that we will be taking a considered, measured approach to our next steps here at Metro, and for now, nothing is changing regarding our protocols, practices, and recommendations. Staff must still follow all safety protocols, and those who are able to work from home are still encouraged to do so. We anticipate slowly commencing a gradual return, and will provide more information on this next month. Also, for office-based staff, CPC is evaluating options for opportunities, where possible, to trial a hybrid model going forward into late 2021. Through this model, we would be potentially splitting the work week into both a work from home and work from the office hybrid. We're committed to keeping staff informed and we will absolutely update you as soon as we have some more information. As we're moving into this 'new world' together, we're going to be undertaking some learning by doing.

Lastly, I can't stress enough how much I encourage all of you to get vaccinated, and as quickly as possible. Thanks for doing your part.

Take care of yourselves, and get outside this weekend.

Together we make our region strong.

All my best,

Jerry

Jerry W. Dobrovolny, P.Eng., MBA
Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer



BC's Restart Plan – 4 Steps:

Thanks to Metro's own Regional Employer Services for the below summary.

BC Government has now launched its four-step Restart Plan. The [news release](#) states that BC's Restart Plan is "designed based on data and guidance from the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) and Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer (PHO)." A [webpage](#) has been setup to outline the details of the plan. The May 25th media presentation on BC's Restart is available [here](#). Given the amount of detail in the plan, please refer to both the BC's Restart Plan [webpage](#) and [new release](#) for specifics. Highlighted below is some key information from the news release:

A) FOUR-STEP RESTART PLAN:

Step 1: May 25

- 60% of adult population with Dose 1
- COVID-19 cases stable, hospitalizations stable
 - Maximum of five visitors or one household allowed for indoor personal gatherings
 - Maximum of 10 people for outdoor personal gatherings
 - Maximum of 10 people for seated indoor organized gatherings with safety protocols
 - Maximum of 50 people for seated outdoor organized gatherings with safety protocols
 - Recreational travel only within travel region (travel restrictions extended)
 - Indoor and outdoor dining for up to six people with safety protocols
 - Resume outdoor sports (games) with no spectators, low-intensity fitness with safety protocols
 - Start gradual return to workplaces
 - Provincewide mask mandate, business safety protocols and physical distancing measures remain in place
 - Return of indoor in-person faith-based gatherings (reduced capacity) based on consultation with public health

Step 2: Mid-June (June 15 – earliest date)

- 65% of adult population with Dose 1
- Cases declining, COVID-19 hospitalizations declining
 - Maximum of 50 people for outdoor social gatherings
 - Maximum of 50 people for seated indoor organized gatherings (banquet halls, movie theatres, live theatre) with safety protocols
 - Consultation process to prepare for larger indoor and outdoor gatherings with safety protocols
 - No B.C. travel restrictions – check local travel advisories
 - Indoor sports (games) and high-intensity fitness with safety protocols
 - Spectators for outdoor sports (50 maximum)
 - Province wide mask mandate, business safety protocols and physical distancing measures remain in place

Step 3: Early July (July 1 – earliest date)

- 70% of adult population with Dose 1
- Cases low, COVID-19 hospitalizations declining
 - Provincial state of emergency and public health emergency lifted
 - Returning to usual for indoor and outdoor personal gatherings
 - Increased capacity for indoor and outdoor organized gatherings, with safety plans
 - Nightclubs and casinos reopen with capacity limits and safety plans

- New public health and workplace guidance around personal protective equipment, physical distancing and business protocols

Step 4: Early September (Sept. 7 – earliest date)

- More than 70% of adult population with Dose 1
- Cases low and stable (contained clusters), COVID-19 hospitalizations low
 - Returning to normal social contact
 - Increased capacity at larger organized gatherings
 - No limits on indoor and outdoor spectators at sports
 - Businesses operating with new safety plans

B) WORKPLACE SAFETY PLANS:

- Existing safety protocols remain in place for Step 1 and Step 2.
- Prior to Steps 3 and 4, sector associations will work with public health and WorkSafeBC to update sector guidelines to meet updated public health guidance.
- All updated workplace safety plans should be ready by July 1 prior to shifting into Step 3. These plans will be based on updated sector guidelines.
- Roundtables led by ministries across government will engage with industry and labour, along with WorkSafeBC and public health, to help develop comprehensive updated industry-specific safety plans, as well as engage with First Nations and municipal governments.

C) BC STATE OF EMERGENCY: The BC State of Emergency has been extended until end of the day on June 8, 2021, allowing health and emergency management officials to continue to use extraordinary powers under the Emergency Program Act to support the Province's COVID-19 pandemic response.

D) PROVINCIAL TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS: Provincial travel restrictions will continue to be enforced until Step 2 of the four-step plan.