

**FORWARDED ON BEHALF
OF
SILVER COMMAND
(INSPECTOR IAN UPTON AND INSPECTOR KRIS WRATHALL)**

**To: All VPD Employees - Civilian and Sworn
COVID-19 Update: April 1, 2020**

The following will provide an update on key developments for April 1, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff are reminded that during this developing situation, the VPD's response will remain fluid and adaptive. As a result, **information and updates may change daily**.

According to Health Canada, though the risk varies between and within communities, given the increasing number of cases in Canada, **the COVID-19 risk to Canadians is considered high**. This does not mean that all Canadians will get the disease. It means that there is already a significant impact on our health care system. If we do not flatten the epidemic curve now, the increase of COVID-19 cases could impact health care resources available to Canadians.

Critical information related to member safety and procedures are distributed by the VPD's Pandemic Working Group. The current health emergency is a rapidly evolving situation and members are advised to access this information on a daily basis.

From your desk:	VPD's CoVID-19 Information & Updates webpage via the Intranet http://references.sharepoint01.vpd.bc.ca/COVID19/default.aspx
From your email:	Daily Situation Reports distributed to your VPD email address
From the road:	VPD GO 2020-54066 accessible by MDT
From home or cell phone:	Go to vpdemerg.ca . Password: Nitro

Key Updates for April 1, 2020

- At this time, **VPD member's enforcement authorities remain unchanged** in relation to federal, provincial, and municipal government COVID-19 orders. **Members shall not take enforcement action unless approved by Car 10.**
- As a reminder, on March 31, 2020, Chief Palmer addressed all VPD staff regarding the ongoing COVID-19 situation. The video can be accessed from your home or mobile device via the VPD's COVID-19 VPDemerg website (vpdemerg.ca - Password: **Nitro**) or on the COVID-19 Intranet page:

<http://references.sharepoint01.vpd.bc.ca/COVID19/default.aspx>

Government Updates for April 1, 2020

Provincial Update – Remains in State of Emergency

- There have been 53 new COVID-19 cases, bringing the current British Columbia total to 1,066 since the outbreak.
- The B.C. government has formally extended the provincial State of Emergency until April 14, 2020. **VPD member's enforcement authorities remain unchanged, Members shall not take enforcement action unless approved by Car 10.**

Operational Considerations

Deployment Readiness

REMINDER: Deployable members not assigned to the Operations Divisions must be prepared to be deployed in uniform as needed. Non-deployable members may also be called upon to fulfill important non-operational roles.

Additionally, members are required to maintain their uniform and equipment in good condition at all times. Those members requiring new uniforms will be provided with the standard allotment by Stores for members if they do not have points. Points are not required to receive the standard allotment.

Updated COVID -19 Exposure Flow Chart

REMINDER: Medical experts have been assessing the COVID-19 situation as it develops. Accordingly, in ongoing consultation with those experts, the VPD Protocol for COVID-19 Exposure Flow Chart has been updated to include the new **Close Contact and Non-Close Contact** exposure categories and associated follow-up protocols. In addition, new **social distancing considerations and PPE guidelines** are also outlined.

The updated Flow Chart can be accessed on the COVID-19 intranet page, on vpdemerg.ca, and on the VPD PRIME Report GO# 2020-54066.

<http://references.sharepoint01.vpd.bc.ca/COVID19/default.aspx>

Temporary Emergency Childcare Available to VPD Employees

REMINDER: VPD members are encouraged to request a referral as soon as possible if interested in using the CoV's Temporary Emergency Childcare for Essential Workers program. The CoV launched this program on March 27, 2020 to offer further support to essential workers in response to COVID-19:

<https://vancouver.ca/news-calendar/temporary-emergency-childcare-referral-system-for-essential-workers-launches.aspx>

- **NOTE:** The childcare locations will be located in Vancouver.
- The referral system will connect all VPD employees and other essential service workers meeting the program's criteria, with licensed childcare providers that are open and available for childcare during this public health crisis (for children ages 0 to 12 years, including those with special needs).

Essential workers will be among those given first priority for this childcare program.

- However, please note that the number of spaces made available for emergency childcare will be at the discretion of each operator, within their licensed capacity and under health protocols. As available spaces are limited, receiving a referral does not guarantee a spot. Fees are to be paid to the operator directly, at a rate defined by the operator.

Those interested in this program are to register with the Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre (WCCRC) by completing the [form on the WCCRC website](#).

- You will receive an email list of potential childcare options within a few days, based on availability, your needs, and preferred location(s).

Health and Wellness

CISM/Peer Support

As an ongoing and important reminder, the Critical Incident Stress Management Team (CISM)/Peer Support is available 24/7 should anyone be feeling anxiety or stress related to COVID-19.

- Sworn members can reach out to Ali Gailus (778-847-5452), Michele McKnight (778-227-0789), Dave Moe (604-404-9303) or any other team member. Their names/contact information can be accessed on the intranet:

<http://references.sharepoint01.vpd.bc.ca/PeerSupport/Lists/Contacts/AllItems.aspx>

- Civilian members can reach out to Amanda Vetter (604-349-5713) or any other Civilian CISM team member. Their names/contact information can also be accessed on the intranet:

<http://references.sharepoint01.vpd.bc.ca/CISMCivilian/Lists/CivilianCISMTeam/AllItems.aspx>

Furthermore, as a reminder in helping to deal with any additional stressors, we encourage members and their families to reach out to *Vancouver Beyond the Blue* (VBTB) - a peer-led, non-profit organization supporting and strengthening police families.

- Erica McKeddy is the contact person and can be reached at 778-229-3950 or by email info@vancouverbeyondtheblue.com.
- VBTB has a secure Facebook page where spouses/partners can connect and a website that provides resources.

<image001.png> **Tyrone Sideroff | Sergeant 2368**
Support Services Division
Vancouver Police Department
604.717.9183 | tyrone.sideroff@vpd.ca

NOTICE: CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION - This transmission may contain confidential or privileged communications, and the sender does not waive any related rights and obligations. If you are not the intended recipient and have received this in error, you must immediately destroy it. Unauthorized copying or distribution of any information herein is strictly prohibited and may constitute a criminal offence, a breach of Provincial or Federal privacy laws, or may otherwise result in legal sanctions. We ask that you notify the Vancouver Police Department immediately of any transmission received in error, by reply email to the sender.

