

**FORWARDED ON BEHALF OF
THE PANDEMIC WORKING GROUP**

To: All VPD Employees - Civilian and Sworn

COVID-19 Update: April 1, 2021

The following will provide an update on key developments and reminders for the week of April 1, 2021 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As the Vancouver Police Department's response remains fluid and adaptive, it is important that all VPD staff continue to follow the developing situation on a daily basis.

KEY UPDATES FOR April 1, 2021

- Vaccination Update
- VPD Graveley Cafeteria
- VPD Mask Protocol – **REMINDER**
- VPD Employees Test Positive for COVID-19
- Workplace Attendance – VPD Sick Line
- VPD Gym Facilities – **MAX CAPACITY**
- Foundation of Mental Health Presentation

VACCINATION UPDATE

1. The COVID-19 AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD vaccine is currently available to anyone between the ages of 55 and 65 in the Lower Mainland. Anyone between the ages of 55 and 65 can book their appointment at a list of initial pharmacies. Some locations may allow for drop-in service. Please go to the following link for more information including what pharmacies are vaccinating this age group and how to book an appointment: <https://www.bcparmacy.ca/resource-centre/covid-19/vaccination-locations>
2. Anyone who identifies as an Indigenous person and is over the age of 18 in British Columbia can start booking their COVID-19 vaccine appointment through their local Public Health Authority. Contact your Public Health Authority for more information.
3. The details of the frontline priority worker vaccination roll-out for police officers has not been confirmed yet by the provincial government. As soon as this roll-out is confirmed, and how priority vaccinations will be administered to police officers, the PWG will communicate this to all employees. Despite not being able to receive a vaccine under the first responder category at this time, you still may be able to receive a COVID-19 vaccine based on your inclusion with another priority group. This may include but is not limited to your age, identifying as an Indigenous person or having an underlying medical condition.

4. The PWG encourages all VPD employees who are eligible to receive a vaccine, and choose to do so, proceed with vaccinations through established processes rather than waiting for the frontline priority rollout.

VPD GRAVELEY CAFETERIA

As a result of amendments to indoor dining, the Graveley Cafeteria will be offering take-out services only.

VPD MASK PROTOCOL – REMINDER

All VPD employees are reminded of the VPD Mask Protocol, which can be found [HERE](#).

VPD employees **must** wear a mask at all times inside VPD facilities, unless seated at your assigned desk, actively eating or drinking, or actively using a cardio machine inside a VPD gym. This includes inside all police vehicles when there is more than one occupant in the vehicle, or in communal report writing rooms.

VPD EMPLOYEES TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

VPD employees have tested positive for COVID-19 this week. The employees are following medical advice and are self-isolating as per protocol. Human Resources and the Pandemic Working Group have taken all steps to ensure the exposure is contained. The Public Health Authority or Human Resources will contact any further employee who is required to self-isolate.

All VPD employees are reminded to adhere to the VPD Operational Safety Guidelines, Mask Protocol, and to respect the occupancy capacity limits set for rooms and elevators for everyone's safety. Additionally, all employees should be cleaning their workstations before and after use. Wiping down frequently touched areas in your workstations will help stop the spread of COVID-19.

PPE and cleaning products are available at all VPD facilities or requests can be made [here](#).

WORKPLACE ATTENDANCE – VPD SICK LINE

The Vancouver Police Board expects employees of the VPD to attend work on a regular and consistent basis. If unable to attend work due to illness, staff are expected to call the sick line and follow the prompts:

Sick Line Sworn: 604-717-9600

Sick Line Civilian: 604-717-9700

VPD GYM FACILITIES – MAX CAPACITY WARNING

All VPD employees are advised that the Cambie gym facility capacity limits are not optional. All employees are required to sign up to use the gym.

If this protocol is not followed, the VPD gym facilities will be closed.

FOUNDATION OF MENTAL HEALTH PRESENTATION

The VPD Employee Wellness Unit has provided the *Foundation of Mental Health Presentation*, as given in Cycle 1 training, for all employees to benefit from. The video can be accessed from the VPDeMerg.ca website.

The focus of the presentation is to educate employees on the science of stress, the impact of stress on our bodies and brains, and the importance of mitigating stress for our own wellness and that of our families.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

CISM/Peer Support

Members are reminded that if they require support during the COVID-19 crisis they can contact CISM/Peer Support and *Vancouver Beyond the Blue*. Information on these services and other supports and can be found on the COVID-19 intranet website and on VPDeMerg.ca.

Accessing Key COVID-19 Information

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:	Weekly Situation Reports distributed to your VPD email address
From home or cell:	Go to VPDeMerg.ca . Password: Nitro



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