

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

**To: All VPD Employees - Civilian and Sworn
COVID-19 Update: April 4, 2020**

The following will provide an update on key developments for April 4, 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 4, 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.**
- Members are reminded to wear a surgical mask on duty if social distancing can't be maintained; masks do not need to be replaced after each use, unless damaged or potentially contaminated.

Government Updates for April 4, 2020

Provincial Update – Remains in State of Emergency

- There have been 29 new COVID-19 cases, bringing the current British Columbia total to 1,203 since the outbreak.

Operational Considerations

Mask Reminder

Members are reminded to wear a surgical mask when it is operationally unavoidable to maintain the social distancing limit of two meters (or six feet). This may occur while in training, responding to calls, or working in two-officer units. Please follow these mask protocols:

- Wear a surgical mask while on duty when in close proximity to others.
- A single mask should suffice for the entire shift.
- Masks do not need to be changed unless they are visibly soiled, wet, or damaged.
- Masks should be changed after an encounter with a subject with confirmed or suspected COVID-19. For all other interactions, a single mask is sufficient.

CPR and AED Guidelines Reminder

Members are reminded of PPE considerations when administering CPR or an AED during the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Current police protocols for CPR is for compression only (i.e., no mouth-to-mouth, no use of airway adjunct or Bag-Valve-Mask), with appropriate use of an AED.
- A simple face mask or surgical mask should be placed on subject prior to chest compressions.
- A fit tested P100 respirator should be worn as chest compressions can aerosolize the virus.

Full guidelines are available and should be reviewed on PRIME GO 20-54066 or the VPD's COVID-19 intranet site.

COVID-19 Videos

The VPD continues to release pertinent and timely information in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A series of videos are being released which address all VPD staff. Videos featuring Chief Palmer, Deputy Chief Chow, and Dr. Erik Vu have been released over the past week.

- A second video from DCC Chow addressing all staff was released yesterday – periodic video updates will continue moving forward.
- In addition, the Health & Safety Unit released a video yesterday reminding staff on to how to use a VPD issued respirator.

All videos 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>

PPE Supply

The VPD has worked to secure a steady supply of PPE, ensuring an ample supply is available to all staff.

REMINDER: All requests for PPE will be made through the chain of command to your Staff Sergeant who will distribute supplies as needed. All efforts must be made to plan and request supplies to your Staff Sergeant prior to end of day. After hours requests can be made to the Cambie DOC Liaison Officer until 2000 hours. After 2000 hours, requests can be made through the Spyglass Kiosk. Compliance is required to properly track inventory levels and assess future PPE needs.

Exceptions include:

- **ERS member requests** will go through their Section Assistant Olivia Kajander olivia.kajander@vpd.ca – (604-717-3278).
- **Fleet Services member requests** will go to either Hailey Lam hailey.lam@vpd.ca – (604-717-3595) or Peter Parmar peter.parmar@vpd.ca – (604-717-3594).

In an emergency only, the Duty Officer may provide PPE supplies.

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 McKeddie 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.

ALVIN SHUM | SERGEANT 2219

ACTING INFORMATION OFFICER | PANDEMIC WORKING GROUP

VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT | *Beyond the Call*

T 604.717.2688

E alvin.shum@vpd.ca | www.vpd.ca

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