

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

To: All VPD Employees - Civilian and Sworn
COVID-19 Update: January 28th, 2021

The following will provide an update on key developments and reminders for the week of January 28th, 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 January 28th, 2021

- Two VPD Employees Test Positive for COVID-19
- Emergency Program Act – *Updated Enforcement Authority*
- Non-VPD Employees Not Permitted Inside VPD Facility Weight Rooms
- VPD Facility Break Rooms and Common Eating Areas
- Changes to BC's Covid-19 Vaccination Roll-Out Plan
- VPD Employees Working from Home: Privacy and Security Reminder

TWO VPD EMPLOYEES TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

Two VPD employees have tested positive for Covid-19 since Wednesday, January 27th. 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. Any further employees requiring to self-isolate will be contacted by their Public Health Authority or Human Resources.

All Vancouver Police Department employees must follow the [VPD Covid-19 Exposure Flowchart](#) if they believe they may have been exposed to someone who has or is suspected of having COVID-19. Any employee of the VPD who is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or requires medical advice relating to COVID-19 should call 811 or their physician and follow the direction of a medical professional.

EMERGENCY PROGRAM ACT – UPDATED ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY

Please see the [VPD Covid-19 EPA Enforcement Guidelines](#) which can also be found on the VPD's Covid-19 intranet site. New updates to this document were added today – this document outlines all of the offences that can be used to issue a violation ticket for a Covid-19 related offence and instructions how to do so.

NON-VPD EMPLOYEES NOT PERMITTED INSIDE VPD FACILITY WEIGHT ROOMS

Individuals or groups not employed by the VPD are not permitted inside VPD Facility Weight Rooms due to concerns regarding City of Vancouver liability, WorkSafeBC guidelines, and VPD security clearances. These restrictions **must** be adhered to in order to allow the continued use of the weight rooms and facilities. This will also help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

VPD FACILITY BREAK ROOMS AND COMMON EATING AREAS

COVID-19 protocols must be adhered to at all times within VPD facilities, including in break rooms and common eating areas. As per the VPD's COVID-19 Mask Protocol, all employees must wear a mask except while at their desk or actively eating/drinking. This includes while seated, but not eating, in break rooms. Personal dishes are to be cleaned immediately after use, and then stored in each employee's own area.

The common areas are there for everyone to use. Removing shoes and sleeping on common area couches is **not** an appropriate use of the space, and causes added health and safety concerns. Further non-compliance with safety protocols may result in the closure of these common areas for all. Please clean up after yourself after each use, and use the provided sanitary wipes to wipe down the areas that you have used.

CHANGES TO BC'S COVID-19 VACCINATION ROLL-OUT PLAN

On Friday, January 22nd, the BC government made an announcement regarding a change to the COVID-19 vaccination plan. While the PWG has been working to establish a working vaccination plan for all VPD employees, these changes have impacted the previously planned distribution. The PWG will continue to work with stakeholders in Police Services, the Provincial Health Authority, and the British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police to ensure that the vaccine is made available to VPD employees if first responders are given clearance to receive the vaccine. As already observed, the plan is fluid and may change depending on additional vaccine approvals and supply chain availability.

See below for the new estimated timeline for vaccine implementation:

PHASE 1 (December to February)	PHASE 2 (February to March)	PHASE 3 (March to June)	PHASE 4 (June to September)
Residents, staff, essential visitors/workers with long-term care homes, remote indigenous communities, and hospital workers caring for COVID-19 Patients.	Seniors 80+, indigenous seniors 65+, indigenous elders, more health-care workers, vulnerable populations and nursing-home staff	Members of the general public aged 60-79: - people aged 16-69 who are clinically vulnerable <i>** If additional vaccines become available, front-line workers aged 18-64 will be added **</i>	Members of the general public aged 18-59 in 5 year increments.

For additional COVID-19 vaccine roll-out information, please see the link below:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/vaccines>

VPD Employees Working from Home: Privacy and Security Reminder

As some VPD employees continue to work from home, please remember to continue being extra vigilant and careful about protecting the sensitive and personal information that we must access to continue our work.

Members working from home must ensure that the information they access is kept secure, and is accessed and viewed by only those with a *need to know*.

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Do not leave work devices in public spaces, in your vehicle, or in areas where they can be easily lost or stolen.

- Securely store paper and storage devices.
- Do not download, share, or save VPD information through applications or services such as Dropbox, Google, or private email accounts that have not been approved by the VPD to conduct VPD work.
- Sign out of VPN before you use your computer for any non-VPD business.

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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