

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

To: All VPD Employees - Civilian and Sworn
COVID-19 Update: March 25th, 2021

The following will provide an update on key developments and reminders for the week of March 25th, 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 March 25th, 2021

- Emergency Program Act – *Enforcement Authority* – **UPDATED FINES AND EXCEPTIONS**
- VPD COVID-19 Vaccination Plan – **NEW UPDATE**
- VPD Employees Test Positive for COVID-19
- VPD COVID-19 Cleaning Protocols

EMERGENCY PROGRAM ACT – ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY – UPDATED FINES AND EXCEPTIONS

Effective March 25th, 2021, the EPA Enforcement Guidelines have been updated to allow outdoor religious gatherings in BC. This includes outdoor worship services and funerals. Organizers of outdoor services will still need to have a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place to ensure everyone is following the rules.

Effective immediately, Emergency Program Act fines have been increased to further enforce COVID-19 public safety. An amendment to the Violation Ticket Administration and Fine Regulation raises the fine amount from \$230 to \$575 for the following offences under the EPA:

- Section 4 (3) Promote Non-Compliant Event; and
- Section 4 (4) Attending a Non-Compliant Gathering.

The current fine for those who organize or host a prohibited event remains the same at \$2,300. Please view the updated EPA Enforcement Guidelines [HERE](#).

VPD COVID-19 VACCINATION PLAN – NEW UPDATE

The Executive Committee has approved the VPD PWG COVID-19 Vaccination Plan. The PWG is waiting for the provincial government to confirm the next stage of the vaccine rollout. Once confirmed, this will be communicated to all VPD employees.

We encourage all employees to take the time to educate themselves on the current approved vaccines in Canada. Please click on this [link](#) to review information on each vaccine, as provided by the Government of Canada.

VPD EMPLOYEES TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

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

VPD COVID-19 CLEANING PROTOCOLS

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](#).

VPD PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19 EXPOSURE

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.

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 VPDeemerg.ca . Password: Nitro



VANCOUVER POLICE
PANDEMIC
WORKING GROUP

John Gibbons | Sergeant 2399

Pandemic Working Group

Vancouver Police Department

604.717.9263 | john.gibbons@vpd.ca

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