

**FORWARDED ON BEHALF
OF
SILVER COMMAND
(INSPECTOR ANDREW CHAN AND INSPECTOR GLENN NEWMAN)**

**To: All VPD Employees - Civilian and Sworn
COVID-19 Update: Saturday, March 28, 2020**

The following will provide an update on key developments for March 28, 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 now 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 VPD 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 your cell phone:	Go to vpdemerg.ca . *New* Password: Nitro

Key Updates for Saturday, March 28, 2020

- The City of Vancouver has launched a **Temporary Emergency Childcare** program in which **Essential Workers will be given first priority.** Due to limited availability, interested employees are to request a referral as soon as possible by completing the following [form on the WCCRC website.](#)
- Mental Health Act Section 28 arrests will be expedited to help reduce members' exposure to COVID-19 and extra PPE will be provided by hospital staff upon request.

- 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.**
- The VPD Protocol for COVID-19 Exposure Flow Chart has been expanded with updated Decontamination procedures.
- Decontamination showers are now located on **P1 level** at the Graveley facility and in the new **Decontamination Trailer** in the Spyglass kiosk lot.

Government Updates for March 28, 2020

Federal Update – Mandatory Isolation

- Effective midnight March 25, 2020, under the Federal Quarantine Act, anyone returning to Canada **must** self-isolate for two weeks, with the exception of some essential service workers.
- **At this time, VPD member's enforcement authorities remain unchanged – Members shall not take enforcement action unless approved by Car 10.**

Provincial Update – Remains in State of Emergency

- There have been 92 new COVID-19 cases, bringing the current British Columbia total to 884 since the outbreak.
- **At this time, VPD member's enforcement authorities remain unchanged – Members shall not take enforcement action unless approved by Car 10.**

Temporary Emergency Childcare Available to VPD Employees

On March 27, 2020, the City of Vancouver launched the **Temporary Emergency Childcare for Essential Workers** program in response to COVID-19:

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

- 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.

Although essential workers will be prioritized, given the overall limited amount of spaces available, we encourage those VPD employees interested in this program to register with the Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre (WCCRC) as soon as possible.

- To request a referral, please complete 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).

Operational Considerations

Mental Health Act Section 28 Arrests Expedited

In response to expressed concerns from our members regarding COVID-19 exposure risks during the delivery and processing of Section 28 MHA arrests, the health authorities have agreed to expedite Section 28 arrests to minimize members' exposure.

- Upon request, members will be provided with extra PPE by VGH and SPH hospital staff if they are required to wait in areas of the hospitals that potentially pose a greater exposure risk (i.e., crowded or confined patient waiting areas).

Members are reminded to be cautious when using PPE that may interfere with access to their force options. Use of PPE should also be done with great care so as not to increase risk of exposure.

Members are requested to provide feedback regarding this expedited Section 28 system to the DOC Liaison Officers located at Room 510 at 2120 Cambie HQ or on the 3rd floor report room at the Annex.

Updated Decontamination Protocols

In consultation with medical experts, the VPD Protocol for COVID-19 Exposure Flow Chart has been expanded to include a new decontamination protocol and an additional site located at Spyglass Kiosk (**link below**). Decontamination showers are now located:

- On **P1 level at the Graveley facility**; and
- In the new **Decontamination Trailer in the Spyglass kiosk lot**.

The new Flow Chart (effective March 27th) can be accessed on the COVID-19 Intranet page (**link below**) and on the VPD PRIME Report GO# 2020-54066 immediately. It will be accessible on the VPD's COVID-19 Internet website shortly (vpdemerg.ca).

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

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>

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