

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

To: All VPD Employees - Civilian and Sworn

COVID-19 Update: February 18th, 2021

The following will provide an update on key developments and reminders for the week of February 18th, 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 February 18th, 2021

- VPD Employees Test Positive For COVID-19
- VPD Self-Assessment; Stay home if you are sick
- Zoom / Teleconference Meetings
- VPD Gym Facilities; iPad usage
- Cleaning your Workspaces

VPD EMPLOYEES TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

In the past week, there have been eight VPD employees that have tested positive for COVID-19. Four of the employees that have tested positive work out of the Graveley office, within the same section, two from Kootenay and two from Cambie. Vancouver Coastal Health is aware and classified this workplace exposure as a cluster. These employees are following medical advice and self-isolating as per protocol. Contact tracing was completed by the Human Resources Section and Vancouver Coastal Health and all members identified as exposed were contacted and instructed to self-isolate and monitor for symptoms.

Human Resources and the Pandemic Working Group have taken all steps necessary to ensure the exposure is contained. Any further employees required to self-isolate will be contacted by their Public Health Authority and/or Human Resources.

VPD COVID-19 SELF-ASSESSMENT

All VPD employees are reminded that they are not permitted to enter any VPD facility if they are feeling unwell. All VPD employees are required to conduct a [daily health self-assessment check](#), prior to arriving at work every day. Please be vigilant with your self-assessment check.

Recent COVID-19 exposures within the VPD have demonstrated the increased need for COVID-19 Safety Protocol compliance. All VPD employees are reminded that they are **required** to wear a surgical or non-medical mask while inside VPD facilities, except while seated at their personal assigned desk, eating/drinking and while using a cardio machine in the gym. This includes meetings, hallways, elevators, gyms, cafeterias, shared workstations (report writing rooms), and **while in parade briefings**.

All employees are reminded for the need to adhere to the VPD Operational Safety Guidelines, Mask Protocol, and to respect the occupancy capacity limits set for rooms and elevators. These protocols and guidelines help ensure the safety of all VPD staff.

ZOOM / TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS

For the time being, when feasible, online or virtual meetings are encouraged. When in person meetings are necessary, all existing safety protocols and operational safety guidelines need to be adhered to. This includes sanitizing hands and workstations/seating areas before and after use, wearing facemasks at all times and maintaining physical distancing.

VPD GYM FACILITIES; IPAD USAGE

Employees are reminded that an iPad has been placed at the entry of the Cambie Gym Facility for proper sign-up (with iPads scheduled to be placed at the Annex and Graveley gyms shortly). A step-by-step guide has been posted to outline the sign-up/cancel process. Please wipe down the iPads with provided disinfectant wipes after each use.

CLEAN WORKSPACES

This is a reminder to all VPD employees to maintain a clean workspace. Disinfectant wipes are provided for all employees, and it is encouraged that each employee take the time to wipe down high use objects within their workspaces, including keyboards and mice, before and after each work day.

Report Writing rooms are common areas. Masks must be worn at all times while in report writing rooms. Please wipe down all areas before and after each use to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

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 require 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 VPDemerg.ca . Password: Nitro