

**FORWARDED ON BEHALF
OF
SILVER COMMAND
(INSPECTOR IAN UPTON and INSPECTOR GLENN NEWMAN)**

**To: All VPD Employees - Civilian and Sworn
COVID-19 Update: May 1, 2020**

The following will provide an update on key developments and reminders for May 1, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As the VPD'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 May 1, 2020

- **No Key Updates.** However, reminders are provided on how to access PPE supply and to maintain physical distance when possible.

Operational Considerations

At this time, the VPD will not be taking the lead on any enforcement action regarding Federal, Provincial, and Municipal COVID-19 related orders. **Any enforcement action in relation to COVID-19 orders requires Car 10 approval.**

PPE Supply

REMINDER: PPE continues to be available to all VPD staff – both sworn and civilian. Members are reminded that if additional PPE is required they are to go through their chain of command. Compliance is required to properly track inventory levels and assess future PPE needs. An updated process is outlined on the COVID-19 intranet page below (and will follow on vpdemerg.ca and via PRIME Report 2020-54066):

[PPE Requests](#)

NOTE: PPE requirements will vary depending on assignment. Staff are advised to consider the need to preserve key PPE materials for frontline members who are in regular contact with the public and do not have access to hand washing.

Physical Distancing Guidelines

REMINDER: VPD staff are reminded, whenever possible, to please keep a physical distance between each other of at least two meters (or six feet) apart. Along with frequent hand washing, physical distancing is proven to be one of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of illness during an outbreak.

For members who are unable to maintain proper physical distancing as a result of operational requirements, the following guidelines apply:

- 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 also be changed after an encounter with a subject with confirmed or suspected COVID-19. For all other interactions, a single mask is sufficient.
- Best attempts should be made to set boundaries on objects/items and within the car and minimize or eliminate sharing of areas (e.g. passenger controls laptop while the driver manages vehicle and switches, etc).
- Maintain increased cleaning of hard surfaces whenever possible (e.g. steering wheel, lap tops, radio, etc).
- Maintain meticulous and frequent hand hygiene as previously outlined.

Given the physical distancing limitations, particularly among frontline members, wearing a mask will be helpful in preventing the spread of the virus from an otherwise asymptomatic carrier to another member who works in close proximity.

Additionally, medical experts encourage wearing eye protection, and suggest that while gloves do not need to be worn in the police vehicle, they should be used for encounters with individuals with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

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:	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

SERGEANT TYRONE SIDEROFF

PANDEMIC WORKING GROUP | VPD DOC – INFORMATION OFFICER

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