

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**
TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2020 at 7:00 pm
IN THE SEA VIEW ACTIVITY CENTRE



(1) CALL TO ORDER

We are privileged to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the Quatsino First Nations.

(2) ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

THAT the Agenda for the Meeting of the Village of Port Alice for November 25, 2020, be approved; AND THAT all delegations, reports, correspondence and other information set to the agenda be received for information.

(3) DELEGATIONS: N\A

(4) MINUTES:

Pg 3-4

a.) **THAT** the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 12, 2020, be approved.

(5) OLD BUSINESS:

a.) Regional Housing Report- Final (emailed and available at Village Office.)

RECOMMENDATION: *THAT the Village of Port Alice Council approve the September 2020 Final Draft of the Mount Waddington Regional Housing Needs Report*

(6) COMMUNICATIONS:

Pg 5-7

a.) New Covid -19 Provincial Health Orders (Ref: 258110)

November 21, 2020 email from Minister Selina Robertson, Municipal Affairs & Housing

Pg 9-10

b.) UBCM Meeting Letter

November 9, 2020 Letter from Kaye Krishna, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing

Pg 11-13

c.) ICET Plan to Attract Home-Based Knowledge Workers to the North Island

November 17, 2020 email from Amanda Fortier, Island Coastal Economic Trust

(7) NEW BUSINESS:

Pg 15

a.) VIRL Request for Hours Change

November 15, 2020 request from Councillor Bruce Lloyd

b.) Appointment of Alternate to the 2021 Vancouver Island Regional Library Board

(8) REPORTS: N\A

(9) BYLAWS:

Pg 17-18

a.) Bylaw No. 664, 2020 Borrowing Bylaw

Bylaw 664, 2020 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

(10) QUESTION PERIOD:

(11) ADJOURNMENT:

THAT the meeting of the Village of Port Alice Council held November 25, 2020, be adjourned

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**
TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2020 at 7:00 pm
IN THE SEA VIEW ACTIVITY CENTRE



INFORMATION ITEMS:

British Columbia Reconciliation Award

North Island College, Women in Construction Trades

Island Health News: Contact Tracing in RV Parks & Campgrounds

Worksafe BC, COVID-19 in the Workplace

Vancouver Island Regional Library, Libraries are an Essential Service

VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2020
AT THE SEA-VAC CENTRE



Present
Mayor Kevin Cameron
Councillor Holly Aldis
Councillor Bruce Lloyd
Councillor Angela Yunker

Absent
Councillor Sean Watson

Staff
Bonnie Danyk, CAO / CFO

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

100/20
Adoption of
Agenda

Moved, seconded and CARRIED

***THAT** the Agenda for the Meeting of the Village of Port Alice for November 12, 2020, be approved with the addition of the request from District of Port Hardy Mayor, Dennis Dugas under NEW BUSINESS, AND **THAT** all delegations, reports, correspondence, and other information set to the agenda be received for information.*

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS: N/A

MINUTES:

101/20
Minutes of
Oct 28

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

***THAT** the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held on October 28, 2020 be adopted.*

OLD BUSINESS:

a) Tourism Dependant Community Funds
October 2020 Information Overview

It was agreed that Bonnie would prepare a Grant Application for a combination of items including a tourism website, kayak storage & launch, food truck pad and some landscaping and amenities on the Frgon islets. A motion will be forthcoming at the next Council meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

a.) Vancouver Island North Island Tourism Advisory Committee 2021-2022 Municipal Agreement

October 28, 2020, Letter from Natalie Stewart, Tourism Coordinator, VI North Tourism

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

102/20
VINT Appt.

***THAT** Councillor Angela Yunker be appointed to the Vancouver Island North Tourism Advisory Committee for the 2021-2022 term.*

b.) Appointment to the 2021 Vancouver Regional Library Board

October 30, 2020, Letter from Rosemary Bonanno, Executive Director

103/20
Library
Appt

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT *Councillor Bruce Lloyd be appointed to the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board for the term of January 1, 2021- December 31, 2021.*

c.) COVID-19 Safe Restart Grants for Local Governments funding - \$386,000

November 2, 2020, Letter from Deputy Minister, Kaye Krishna

NEW BUSINESS:

a) Email from Dennis Dugas, District of Port Hardy Mayor *regarding funding for Fire Protection Services*

104/20
Letter of
Support

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT *the Village of Port Alice Council send a letter of support to Mayor Dugas regarding the creation of a coalition to lobby the Province of BC for Provincial Financial support for rural BC Fire Departments.*

REPORTS:**a.) Community Centre Holiday Activities**

November 6, 2020, Report from Bonnie Danyk, CAO/CFO

105/20
Light
Contest

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT *the Village of Port Alice hold a Christmas house decorating contest for 2020 and FURTHER THAT the prizes be \$150 for 1st, \$100 for 2nd and \$50 for third in the form of gift certificates for FP Foods.*

BYLAWS: N/A**ADJOURNMENT:**

106/20
Adjourn

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT *the Regular meeting of the Village of Port Alice held November 12, 2020, be adjourned at 7:35 pm*

I hereby certify the preceding to be a true and correct account of the Regular meeting of the Village of Port Alice Council held November 12, 2020.

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer

Bonnie Danyk

From: Minister, MAH MAH:EX <MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Saturday, November 21, 2020 8:17 AM
To: Undisclosed recipients:
Subject: New COVID-19 Provincial Health Orders (Ref: 258110)

Ref: 258110

Mayors and Chairs

cc: Stephen Brown, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Lori Halls, Deputy Minister, Emergency Management BC
Trevor Hughes, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labour
Chief Administrative Officers
Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director, Union of BC Municipalities
Nancy Taylor, Executive Director, Local Government Management Association
Todd Pugh, Executive Director, CivicInfo

Dear Mayors and Chairs:

As you know, Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry announced a number of new province-wide restrictions to curb the increased spread of COVID-19 across the province. As I have committed to staying in touch and keeping you informed with respect to COVID-19 related information, I am reaching out today to provide a summary on some key topics in relation to the new COVID-19 provincial health orders. I would also strongly encourage you to stay up-to-date on the latest information available by regularly checking the provincial government's COVID-19 website at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/restrictions> - which also contains some helpful examples and further details on the new restrictions outlined below.

Some of the topics discussed below are ones that came up in our conversations last week with local governments in Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health regions about the restrictions that were in place for those regions, and they are certainly ones that I have heard about generally from community leaders throughout the province.

These restrictions are in effect province-wide from November 19, 2020 at midnight to December 7, 2020 at midnight.

- **PHO order on province-wide restrictions, social gatherings and events**

By order, all individuals, places of work and businesses in B.C. must significantly reduce social interactions. No social gatherings of any size at people's residences with anyone other than your household or core bubble are permitted. In addition, all events and community-based gatherings as defined in the [PHO order – Gatherings and Events \(PDF\)](#) are suspended and there are additional restrictions in place by sector. The order makes clear that suspension does not apply to formal meetings such as local government council or board meetings or business meetings – these are not social gatherings. For additional information see <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/restrictions#pho-order> The order does not suspend operations in restaurants and bars and other types of businesses, such as retail and movies. Such operations can continue to operate as long as they have a COVID-19 Safety Plan and employee protocols in place, including masks in all public indoor spaces. All Safety Plans should be reviewed and updated to reflect things such as mandatory masks.

- **Athletic activities**

Businesses, recreation centres or other organizations that organize or operate high risk indoor group physical activities must suspend the following activities: spin classes, hot yoga and high intensity interval training (HIIT). Guidance on other physical activities done with a group indoors (e.g. dance, martial arts, cheerleading) will need to follow updated guidance that is being developed. Gyms and recreation facilities that offer individual workouts and 1-2 person personal training sessions can remain open as long as they have a COVID-19 Safety Plan that is strictly followed. Sports games, competitions and practices can continue with no spectators and no travel. For additional information see <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/restrictions#athletics> Note that businesses that close due to COVID-19 restrictions could be eligible to receive rent support of up to 90 percent.

- **Places of worship**

In-person religious gatherings and worship services are suspended by order. Religious services can continue using remote or virtual attendance options, like Zoom or Skype. People can still visit your place of worship for individual activities, such as contemplation or personal prayer, and meal preparation as part of a religious service can continue provided protocols are followed.

- **Mask requirements**

Masks are now required for everyone in all public indoor settings, all retail stores and common spaces/shared spaces at workplaces. People who cannot wear a mask due to medical conditions or who cannot put on or remove a mask on their own are exempt under the order. Masks are not recommended for children under the age of 2. For additional information see <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/restrictions#masks> Note that the formal written order is expected to be issued early next week, with further details about the mask mandate, including enforcement. It is government's expectation that the public abide by the mask mandate immediately along with the public health orders that were announced.

- **Ordering masks and other critical supplies**

Masks, along with other critical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and cleaning supplies, are available for purchase through the Province's COVID-19 Supply Hub at: www.gov.bc.ca/supplyhub The Province now holds large inventories of masks, gloves, gowns, goggles, face shields, industrial cleaner, disinfectant cleaner and wipes, bleach, hand sanitizer and trigger sprays – and can accommodate large orders for organizations looking to build up supplies for the winter season. There are no quantity restrictions on orders. Based on ongoing market analysis, prices are at or below available supply in the private market. Delivery is province-wide, typically shipped within one week of an approved order.

- **Travel advisory**

At this time, all non-essential travel should be avoided. This includes travel into and out of B.C. and between communities of the province. Individual circumstances may affect whether a particular trip is considered essential or non-essential. Essential travel within B.C. includes: regular travel for work within your region; and travel for things like medical appointments and hospital visits. For more information see <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/restrictions#travel>

- **Enforcement of Provincial Health Orders – role/responsibilities of local government bylaw officers**

The role/responsibilities of local government bylaw officers have not changed. Local government bylaw officers' primary role is education of the public and compliance support, as well as collaboration with the police for a jurisdiction, authorized provincial enforcement officers and health officers if those officers see a need to move to enforcement of the provincial health orders. WorkSafe BC personnel can enforce safety plans (e.g. for businesses). Local government bylaw officers are not authorized to ticket in relation to the provincial health orders, however, they can issue tickets for bylaw infractions that may arise in circumstances related to provincial health orders. In addition to compliance activities by WorkSafeBC, an Environmental Health Officers team will focus on workplaces in the Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health regions over the next two weeks to ensure COVID-19 Safety Plan compliance and enable rapid response and action.

Our commitment to supporting each other and coming together as a community is now more important than ever to curb the spread of COVID-19 in our province. The choices we make now and in the coming weeks and months will be essential to getting and keeping our province on the right track and addressing the pressures on our health care system and our communities. We need to step our efforts up now to keep essential services open.

As Dr. Henry says, remember to be kind, calm and look after each other in these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Selina Robinson
Minister of Municipal Affairs
and Housing



November 9, 2020

Ref: 256914

His Worship Mayor Kevin Cameron
and Members of Council
Village of Port Alice
PO Box 130
Port Alice BC V0N 2N0

Dear Mayor Cameron and Councillors:

Thank you to your delegation for meeting with ministry representatives during this year's virtual Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Annual Convention process. Due to the evolving COVID-19 situation, we have had to develop new approaches and adaptations to many aspects of our everyday life. I thank your delegation for its flexibility with provincial appointments this year and I am pleased that our governments still had the chance to connect.

As Deputy Minister, I write to acknowledge topics raised during your conference call, which included the Neucel Cellulose Ltd. pulp mill and non-payment of taxes to the Village of Port Alice as well as needed road improvements.

I recognize that the Village has been working hard to meet the needs of its community during this unsettling time. With BC Assessment's reassessment of the Neucel property for 2020 and 2021, I understand the tax burden of the total requisition from other authorities will be more fairly distributed among other municipal and electoral areas.

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing staff will continue to participate in the receivership and bankruptcy process for Neucel with the interests of Port Alice in mind. Village staff should continue to stay connected with Joshua Craig, Financial Officer, Local Government Finance, by telephone at: 778 698-3231, or by email at: Joshua.Craig@gov.bc.ca.


Thank you for sharing your road improvement needs with ministry representatives. Ministry staff are available to further discuss your needs as well as infrastructure funding programs in greater detail. Please contact John Antill, Acting Director, Infrastructure and Engineering, by email at: John.Antill@gov.bc.ca, or by telephone at: 778 974-2132.

.../2

His Worship Mayor Kevin Cameron
and Members of Council
Page 2

Thank you, again, to your delegation for the meeting.

Sincerely,



Kaye Krishna
Deputy Minister

pc: John Antill, Acting Director, Infrastructure and Engineering
Bonnie Danyk, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Port Alice
Joshua Craig, Financial Officer, Local Government Finance

From: Island Coastal Economic Trust <info@islandcoastaltrust.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:00 AM
To: info@portalice.ca
Subject: PLAN TO ATTRACT HOME-BASED KNOWLEDGE WORKERS TO NORTH ISLAND SET IN MOTION

[View this email in your browser](#)



Building a diverse and sustainable economy.



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Forward

PLAN TO ATTRACT HOME-BASED KNOWLEDGE WORKERS TO NORTH ISLAND SET IN MOTION

*Regional District of Mount Waddington to capitalize on improvements to
broadband and rise in remote work*

COURTENAY, 17 November 2020 – New opportunities for economic development and diversification will be explored through a new Regional District of Mount Waddington (RDMW) attraction campaign targeting home-based knowledge workers, thanks to funding support through the Island Coastal Economic Trust's (ICET) Economic Development Readiness Program (EDRP).

Over the last few decades, the North Island has experienced several long-term

macro trends, creating disruption and change in the region's traditional resource sector employment base. As improvements in technology and connectivity emerge, and the more recent COVID related workplace adjustments have evolved, economic diversification opportunities for rural communities have been gaining new momentum.

To capitalize on these growing trends, the RDMW has partnered with the Vancouver Island North Training and Attraction Society (VINTAS) to develop a strategy encouraging remote workers, independent agents or other professionals who have the opportunity to work anywhere, to relocate to the North Island.

"Attracting a new workforce to the MWRD will provide a stabilizing diversification to the local economy which has been subject to the cyclical fluctuations of resource-based employment," says ICET Board Chair Aaron Stone. "Offering diverse career options for graduating youth, is also an important way of motivating them to remain or return to the region once their post-secondary studies are complete."

The attraction of a new home-based workforce to the MWRD will target a high value sector of the labour force, with relative high incomes and consequential spending. The project will include the definition of primary and secondary market segments and key motivators; the identification of barriers; a brand review of the myvancouverislandnorth.ca website; a portfolio of messages, including text, graphics, video and social media; a detailed workplan; and an integration into an ambassador program.

"We've been witnessing in recent years an increase in the number of knowledge workers, in the areas of computer graphics, software development, engineering and general business consulting, establish their home-based businesses here," says Andrew Hory, Chairman, Regional District of Mount Waddington. "It is clear there is an opportunity to capitalize and build on this

sector as a key driver of economic growth in our region.”

The project is supported through ICET’s Economic Development Readiness Program’s Investment Attraction funding stream, which provides up to \$30,000 in matching funds.

The project is expected to get underway shortly.

For more information about the Economic Development Readiness Program, please see our guidelines and application form:

www.islandcoastaltrust.ca/economic-development-readiness

###

About the Island Coastal Economic Trust (ICET)

Created and capitalized by the Province of BC in 2006, the Island Coastal Economic Trust (ICET) mission is to create a more diverse and globally competitive Island and Coastal economy. In partnership with local and regional government, non-profits and indigenous communities, ICET serves nearly half a million residents. Funding and support for economic infrastructure and other economic diversification initiatives is delivered through a unique community centered decision-making process. Since inception, ICET has approved more than \$53.8 million in funding for over 230 initiatives. These investments have leveraged over \$270 million in new investment into the region creating more than 2500 construction phase jobs and 2650 long term permanent jobs.

For further information:

Amanda Fortier, Communications Officer

Island Coastal Economic Trust

Tel. 250-871-7797

At this time our local library has returned to normalcy somewhat and restrictions and practices are changed. The local librarian has done a good job of managing her duties and implementing the numerous changes needed to ensure a safe and responsible system is in place.

However, a change to the hours for certain reasons has resulted in our library only being open at the end of each week on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The hours themselves are more uniform and thus easier to remember than the more eclectic former hours open schedule. But the primary problem I and others perceive is the bunching together of all opening hours, causing a less readily accessible spread of opening hours for the public; especially for those whose working hours and schedules are bunched into the end of the week either permanently or rotationally. Eg; 12 hour shift rotating etc.

The “best of both worlds” in my opinion, would be to keep the welcomed concentration of hours, but separate the days of operation to ensure no inaccessible days for the entire population. This would be to ask the library to consider a schedule of Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday or something similar, rather than the presently “bunched together opening days of Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

I will make motion at the upcoming regular meeting that we send a request for such change to the VIRL.

Sincerely,
Councillor Lloyd

**VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE
BYLAW NO 664**

BORROWING BYLAW

WHEREAS the Council for the Village of Port Alice deems it necessary to borrow the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00).

The Council of the Village of Port Alice enacts as follows:

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED as a Bylaw of the Village of Port Alice as follows:

1. The Mayor, Councillors, CAO, CFO, and the Administrative Assistant are hereby authorized to borrow on behalf of the Village of Port Alice from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (the "Bank") from time to time by way of promissory note a sum or sums not exceeding at any one time Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00).
2. The Mayor, Councillors, CAO, CFO, and the Administrative Assistant are hereby authorized to sign on behalf of the Village of Port Alice and to furnish to the Bank from time to time a promissory note or notes sealed with the corporate seal for the sum or sums so borrowed with interest at such rate as the Bank may from time to time determine.
3. The Mayor, Councillors, CAO, CFO, and the Administrative Assistant are hereby authorized to sign on behalf of the Village of Port Alice and to furnish to the Bank an Agreement or Agreements under the seal of the Village of Port Alice providing for payment to the Bank of all amount required to be paid by the Bank pursuant to each promissory note of the Village of Port Alice guaranteed by the Bank with interest at such rate as the Bank may from time to time determine and of a guarantee fee in respect of each such promissory note at such rate as the Bank may from time to time determine.
4. The Mayor, Councillors, CAO, CFO, and the Administrative Assistant are hereby authorized and directed to furnish to the Bank at the time of each borrowing and at such other times as the Bank may from time to time request, a statement showing the nature and amount of the estimated revenues of the current year not yet collected or where the estimates for the year have not been adopted, a statement showing the nature and amount of the estimated revenues of the Village of Port Alice as set forth in the estimates adopted for the next preceding year and also showing the total of any amounts borrowed in the current year and in any preceding year that have not been repaid.
5. The Mayor, Councillors, CAO, CFO, and the Administrative Assistant are hereby authorized and directed to apply in payment of all sums borrowed from the Bank, with interest thereon, all of the moneys hereafter collected or received on account or realized in respect of the taxes levied for the current year and for any preceding years and all of the moneys collected or received from any other source.

Read a first time on the 25th day of November 2020.

Read a second time on the 25th day of November 2020.

Read a third time on the 25th day of November 2020.

Adopted on the 9th day of December 2020.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

MAYOR

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of Bylaw No.664, 2020 of the Village of Port Alice in the Province of British Columbia duly passed at a meeting of Council of the said Village of Port Alice duly held on the 9th day of December, 2020, that the said By-Law is under the seal of the Village of Port Alice and signed by its proper officers as required by law and that the said By-Law is in full force and effect.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



INFORMATION ITEMS



British Columbia Reconciliation Award

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, in partnership with the BC Achievement Foundation, is pleased to announce the launch of the British Columbia Reconciliation Award. This award recognizes individuals, groups and organizations who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, integrity, respect and commitment to furthering reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in the province of British Columbia, or inspired others to continue reconciliation efforts.

The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, has made Reconciliation one of the key themes of her mandate. This includes participation in promotion of public awareness of the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

“As the Crown’s representative in British Columbia, I have a responsibility to show leadership in furthering the cause of reconciliation. I am deeply honoured for this opportunity to recognize the exemplary individuals and organizations who advance reconciliation in our province,” said Austin. “Reconciliation must take root in our hearts, within families, between generations, and throughout our communities. I look forward to supporting this award and its deeply meaningful goal of building our relationships with each other across cultures and social barriers.”

The BC Achievement Foundation has several established programs honouring excellence and inspiring achievement throughout British Columbia, including the Indigenous Business Award and the Fulmer Award in First Nations Art.

"Reconciliation builds relationships and bridges the gap between two worlds through the efforts of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. By recognizing the truths of past wrongs and showcasing examples of how to make things right, others will be inspired to follow," said BC Achievement Foundation board member Judith Sayers. "The British Columbia Reconciliation Award will celebrate innovative and empowering ways to embark on this journey, designed and decided by Indigenous peoples, allowing them to thrive while making the world a better place."

The British Columbia Reconciliation Award draws inspiration from the work of the Honourable Steven Point, 28th Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, and a founder of the Award. His hand-carved red cedar canoe, Shxwtitostel, currently on display at the BC Legislature buildings, was created as a symbol of reconciliation, with the understanding that “we are all in the same canoe” and must “paddle together” to move forward.

“It is a very proud moment for me to witness the launch of the British Columbia Reconciliation Award,” said Point. “Our world and its issues are not apart from us but rather are a part of who

we are. We must not stand by and observe the world but rather take steps to bring positive change.”

A selection committee for the British Columbia Reconciliation Award will include representation by Indigenous Elders, BC First Nations leadership and government partners.

Nomination forms are now available on the BC Achievement Foundation website, bcachievement.com. The nomination period will be open until January 15, 2021.

MEDIA RELEASE

November 23, 2020
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MR20-093

Women in Construction Trades offered throughout region

Women interested in exploring a career in trades are invited to a unique training opportunity to sample a variety of trades careers.

Women in Construction Trades is a series of tuition-free sessions, led by experienced instructors and industry professionals who will provide an overview of various trades programs and skills taught at NIC, and is funded by the Government of Canada's Women in Construction Fund.

Each session is 1-2 weeks long and will be offered via a mix of in-person and digital delivery.

Sessions will be offered in Campbell River, Comox Valley, Port Alberni and Port Hardy.

"Building on the success of the inaugural program delivered in Port Alberni during Winter 2020, we are pleased to announce we are expanding this program across our service area," said Cheryl O'Connell, dean of Trades and Technical Programs at NIC.

"The Women in Construction Trades sessions offer a great overview of NIC's trades programs and related employment opportunities for graduates," O'Connell added. "These orientation sessions are designed for women who are interested in exploring the trades, seeking information on NIC's trades training or considering a career change."

Trades topics covered in the sessions will vary by location and may include subjects like welding, joinery, automotive and carpentry.

Attendees will have the opportunity to practice hands-on skills in NIC's well-equipped training shops and experience trades training firsthand.

The training will be held:

- Jan. 11-22, 2021 – Campbell River
- Jan. 18-29, 2021 – Comox Valley
- Jan. 25 to Feb. 5, 2021 – Port Alberni
- Feb. 8-12, 2021 – Port Hardy

To register or learn more, visit www.nic.bc.ca/trades or contact ashley.russo@nic.bc.ca.



NIC instructor Tom Klatt works with a student in NIC's carpentry shop. Women in Construction Trades training will be held in communities throughout the region – giving women a chance to sample various trades and explore new career opportunities.

Media Contact

Elizabeth Young
Media Liaison, North Island College
250-207-6946
elizabeth.young@nic.bc.ca

From: Bloxham, Cheryl <Cheryl.Bloxham@VIHA.CA> on behalf of Island Health Communication <Communication@viha.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 4:38 PM
To: Island Health Communication
Subject: Island Health News: Medical Health Officer Order ensures appropriate contact tracing measures at campgrounds and RV Parks

islandhealth.ca/news



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 13, 2020

Medical Health Officer Order ensures appropriate contact tracing measures at campgrounds and RV Parks

Vancouver Island – Island Health’s Chief Medical Health Officer, Dr. Richard Stanwick, has issued a Public Health Order to help prevent the potential spread of COVID-19 at campgrounds and RV parks. This is an important step as we continue to see a rise in the number of positive cases throughout the province and within our health region.

Effective November 13, all owners and operators of campgrounds and RV parks must collect information from each patron that would enable contact tracing, including names and phone numbers. This information must be kept for a period of 30 days.

“We need to do everything we can to slow the transmission of COVID-19 and we know effective contact tracing plays a significant role,” says Dr. Stanwick. “I appreciate the support of Tourism Vancouver Island in our collective efforts to help protect our families, friends and those who may be most at risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus during the winter months.”

“We want to see our communities stay as safe as possible by educating visitors who have chosen to travel within our region and do so responsibly in accordance with current public health orders and guidelines,” says Anthony Everett, President and CEO, Tourism Vancouver Island. “We hope to see Vancouver Island strike a balance between health and safety and supporting the survival of our tourism industry which is vital to Islanders.”

The Provincial Health Officer has recently issued an order prohibiting all gatherings in the Fraser and Vancouver Coastal Health regions. She has also asked those of us who live within Island Health to postpone any unnecessary travel to the Lower Mainland.

“Island Health has been working closely with WorksafeBC and will also work with RV and Campground operators to help keep people visiting their sites, and those in the community, safe,” said Gethsemane Luttrell, Director of Public Health Protection & Assessment with Island Health. “Our Environmental Health Officers will visit RV sites and campgrounds to provide the information necessary to ensure compliance of this order.”

The new order within Island Health ensures our public health teams will be able to trace any potential source of COVID-19, and provides important information about people who may travel through the Lower Mainland or come from other parts of Canada to Vancouver Island.

Each of us must continue to remain vigilant and do our part to flatten the curve. We can help keep our rates of COVID-19 transmission low within Island Health by:

- **stick with six, keep 2m/6ft apart;**
- **stay home when sick;**
- **wash hands frequently;**
- **wear a mask when we can't stay apart.**

This new order is another step in our efforts to reduce the potential for transmission of the virus in our communities. Our Medical Health Officers continue to closely monitor COVID-19 case numbers and, depending on the trajectory, may further expand orders as necessary.

The Medical Health Officer Order can be found [here](#).

For media inquiries, please contact:

Island Health after-hours media line: 250-716-7750

This Island Health notice has been sent to media, MPs, MLAs, mayors, Island Health leaders, foundations and regional hospital district chairs on Vancouver Island. View online at www.islandhealth.ca/news.

If you no longer wish to receive Island Health news, please [click here](#) to request you be removed from the distribution list.



Virus-free. www.avg.com

From: WorkSafeBC <stakeholderrelations@worksafebc.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 10:33 AM
To: Bonnie Danyk
Subject: Enhanced COVID-19 inspections and consultations

Read it online: worksafebcmedia.com/enews/single/201117/201117.html

COVID-19 and the workplace

On November 7, 2020 the provincial health officer issued an order to all employers in the Fraser Health and Vancouver Coastal Health regions. I would like to update you on how WorkSafeBC is supporting the new health order and B.C.'s Restart Plan.

The new order includes a requirement for employers in the affected regions to review their COVID-19 safety plans to ensure appropriate protocols are in place to limit the risk of exposure for workers. While the order is in effect, employers are also required to conduct worker health checks to ensure workers and other visitors are prohibited from entering the workplace if they have COVID-19 symptoms or a possible exposure.

Enhanced COVID-19 inspections and consultations

Our team is conducting enhanced COVID-19 Safety Plan inspections and consultations at workplaces in the Fraser Health and Vancouver Coastal Health regions to ensure employers stay vigilant and revisit their existing COVID-19 safety plans so they can update it as conditions change.

We are prioritizing workplaces identified as high risk for COVID-19. Officers will focus on ensuring workplace controls are effectively implemented and managed, and health screening is being conducted. Our Occupational Health and Safety consultants will support these inspections through consultations to assist employers with managing COVID-19 risks in their workplaces.

- Learn more about what to expect from [inspections and consultations during the COVID-19 pandemic](#).

We have also launched a month-long province wide outreach initiative as of November 12, to re-enforce our prevention efforts. It focuses on the message that **healthy and safe workplaces contribute to a safe and healthy province**. The multi-channel, multi-language campaign reminds workers and employers to remain vigilant and to update and follow their COVID-19 safety plans to keep everyone healthy and safe. #LetsAllDoOurPartBC

- To access resources translated to Chinese (Simplified), Chinese (Traditional), French, Punjabi, Spanish, and Vietnamese, please see [health and safety information in other languages](#).

Resources for employers

We have developed and updated resources to assist employers with understanding how to effectively manage COVID-19 risks in their workplaces and meet the requirements in the provincial health officer's order:

- [Reviewing and updating your COVID-19 safety plan: A guide for employers](#)
- [Worker health checks](#)
- [Controlling exposure](#), including considerations in the use of masks
- Revised [entry check poster for workers](#) and [entry check poster for visitors](#)

Workers or employers with questions or concerns can call WorkSafeBC's Prevention Information Line at 604.276.3100 (toll-free within B.C. at 1.888.621.SAFE). For more information about how to prevent the risk of exposure of COVID-19 in your workplace, visit [worksafebc.com](https://www.worksafebc.com)

Sincerely,

Al Johnson
Head of Prevention Services



Administration
Box 3333 | 6250 Hammond Bay Road
Nanaimo, BC Canada V9R 5N3
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November 23, 2020

The Honourable John Horgan, MLA
Premier of British Columbia
West Annex, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
Original sent via email: john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca

Dear Premier,

Re: Libraries are Essential Services in BC

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has challenged us in ways we previously thought unimaginable. In the process, the pandemic has laid bare large portions of our society who were not equipped with the resources, technology, or ability to adapt to a world with fewer physical connections, and an ever increasing reliance on digital tools and skills. These inequities are not the result of COVID-19, but the pandemic has cast them under a stark spotlight.

BC's libraries are ideally positioned to confront these challenges. We are able to remove barriers that lead to social isolation by providing the technology, resources and expertise needed to facilitate access to government and community services, while bringing people together to build community connections.

The services and spaces Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) offers are of vital importance to the 38 communities we serve. VIRL has the means and the strategies to serve our customers safely, and to adjust our services in accordance with public health measures. We have implemented a phased Recovery Plan purposefully designed to be responsive and quick to pivot.

All VIRL service locations are open. In almost every branch, this means the doors are open, the collections are browsed in person and online, and in many cases, public computers are available. We can very quickly adjust our Recovery Plan to meet local circumstances.

Libraries also play a crucial role in providing access to important resources. Through public funds, we allow people to get lost in a book, learn a new skill, stream a thought-provoking film, and so much more. During the pandemic, these escapes and opportunities are so important for the ongoing mental health and wellbeing of British Columbians.

Strong Libraries ■ Strong Communities

Bella Coola Bowser Campbell River Chemainus Comox Cortes Island Courtenay Cowichan Cowichan Lake Cumberland Gabriola Island Gold River Hornby Island Ladysmith Masset Nanaimo Harbourfront Nanaimo North Nanaimo Wellington Parksville Port Alberni Port Alice Port Clements Port Hardy Port McNeill Port Renfrew Quadra Island Qualicum Beach Queen Charlotte Sandspit Sayward Sidney/North Saanich Soletola Sooke South Cowichan Tahsis Tofino Ucluelet Union Bay Woss

For so many in our province, libraries are an essential service. We heard this time and time again during the first wave and subsequent shutdowns. Over the past few months, we have learned so much and we are well equipped to continue to safely offer our services to our Island communities.

As the province continues to assess the ongoing risks presented by COVID's second wave, we ask you to consider libraries as essential during the pandemic and that you preserve our ability to operate during any further COVID-19 restrictions. Similar to other service providers listed in BC's List of COVID-19 Essential Services, libraries provide daily services essential to economically disadvantaged and otherwise vulnerable individuals including seniors, children, and individuals with disabilities.

We are a vital community service and we can help ensure even the most vulnerable needs will be met as your government strives to "build back better". We know we can continue to safely reduce barriers, keep people entertained, and play an important role in combatting some of the pandemic's most pressing social challenges, including the ongoing and pervasive mental health challenges impacting our communities and community members.

The Vancouver Island Regional Library Board of Trustees, encourages you to consider libraries an essential part of the community ecosystem — one which can assist in every phase of our province's reopening and recovery. In closing, we invite you to watch these two short videos — the first illustrates the value and importance of libraries to community members during COVID-19, and the second showcases our staff and spaces as dynamic, vital, and safe.

Thank you for considering our request. If you have any questions or require additional information, please reach out at any time.

Yours sincerely,



Brenda Leigh
Chair, VIRL Board of Trustees



Gaby Wickstrom
Vice Chair, VIRL Board of Trustees

cc: The Honourable Adrian Dix, MLA, Minister of Health
Colleen Evans, VIRL Board Trustee, City of Campbell River
Nicole Minions, VIRL Board Trustee, Town of Comox
Manno Theos, VIRL Board Trustee, City of Courtenay
Vickey Brown, VIRL Board Trustee, Village of Cumberland
Jenni Capps, VIRL Board Trustee, City of Duncan
Brenda Patrick, VIRL Board Trustee, Village of Gold River
Jeff Virtanen, VIRL Board Trustee, Town of Ladysmith
Carolyne Austin, VIRL Board Trustee, Town of Lake Cowichan
Ian Savage, VIRL Board Trustee, District of Lantzville
Terry Carty, VIRL Board Trustee, Village of Masset
Erin Hemmens, VIRL Board Trustee, City of Nanaimo
Debra Toporowski, VIRL Board Trustee, Municipality of North Cowichan
Jack McClintock, VIRL Board Trustee, District of North Saanich
Teresa Patterson, VIRL Board Trustee, City of Parksville
Sharie Minions, VIRL Board Trustee, City of Port Alberni
Bruce Lloyd, VIRL Board Trustee, Village of Port Alice

Ian Gould, VIRL Board Trustee, Village of Port Clements
Fred Robertson, VIRL Board Trustee, District of Port Hardy
Scott Harrison, VIRL Board Trustee, Town of Qualicum Beach
Jesse Embree, VIRL Board Trustee, Village of Queen Charlotte
Norm Kirschner, VIRL Board Trustee, Village of Sayward
Barbara Fallot, VIRL Board Trustee, Town of Sidney
Jeff Bateman, VIRL Board Trustee, District of Sooke
Lynda Llewellyn, VIRL Board Trustee, Village of Tahsis
Duncan McMaster, VIRL Board Trustee, District of Tofino
Marilyn McEwen, VIRL Board Trustee, District of Ucluelet
Barb Lewis, VIRL Board Trustee, Village of Zeballos
Penny Cote, VIRL Board Trustee, Alberni/Clayoquot Regional District
Mike Hicks, VIRL Board Trustee, Capital Regional District
Jayme Kennedy, VIRL Board Trustee, Central Coast Regional District
Daniel Arbour, VIRL Board Trustee, Comox Valley Regional District
Blaise Salmon, VIRL Board Trustee, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Andrew Hory, VIRL Board Trustee, Mt. Waddington Regional District
Vanessa Craig, VIRL Board Trustee, Regional District of Nanaimo
Evan Putterill, VIRL Board Trustee, North Coast Regional District
Andrew Fall, VIRL Board Trustee, qathet Regional District
Rosemary Bonanno, Executive Director, VIRL
VIRL Executive Leadership Group

