

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
CC: ["City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"](#)
Date: 4/26/2021 2:01:12 PM
Subject: Upcoming IB: COVID-19 Recovery Report (April 27, 2021)

Dear Mayor and Council,

Following the presentation of the COVID-19 Recovery Report at Tuesday's Council meeting, we will be issuing an Information Bulletin recapping some of the key content from the report, including work done by the CCRC last year.

As per the memo you received under separate cover from Theresa O'Donnell, the bulletin also will refer to a report the City has produced in partnership with the BIA network, which looks at the impacts to local businesses over the past two years, including storefront vacancies. Also covered in the bulletin are some of the key initiatives the City put in place during the past year to support local business restart and recovery.

Following are key messages you may find useful if you receive questions from the media, residents, or businesses about these two reports:

- The City reallocated significant resources (both people and budget) to its response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to efforts to support economic and community recovery across Vancouver.
- The City's pandemic recovery work was informed by, and is aligned with, the recommendations made by the Council COVID-19 Recovery Committee following a series of meetings held between May and July 2020 where Council heard from more than two dozen experts and stakeholders. Of the 124 recommendations from these meetings, 103 are already completed or underway.
- A major area of focus for the City's recovery program is support for local business including establishing a dedicated [Business Communications and Support Office](#), which City Council recently voted to make a permanent service. (NOTE: Specific examples of support for business are included in the Information Bulletin, including the temporary expedited patio program, the temporary liquor licensing program, Room to Load and Room to Queue, etc. Additional examples can also be found online in the [Council report](#).)
- The pandemic has unfortunately had a negative impact on many of the City's retail-commercial areas and businesses as reflected in the storefront vacancies report the City has prepared in partnership with local BIAs. Some areas experienced an increase in storefront vacancy over the past year and certain sectors, such as food and beverage and retailers, were hit harder than others. The City plans to implement an annual report card on commercial retail area health as part of the follow up from this year's report.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver
paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməŋəm (Musqueam), lə́wú 7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.