

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"

CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"

"EOC Deputy Director 1 \ (Delivery\)" <EOC.DeputyDirector1@Vancouver.ca>

"Reid, Darrell" <Darrell.Reid@vancouver.ca>

Date: 6/9/2020 11:46:21 AM

Subject: Memo: Menstrual Products in Washroom Trailers

Attachments: Council Memo - Mentruation Products in washroom trailers - COVID 19 - 2020-06-09.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

The purpose of the attached memo is to inform you that the EOC is conducting a pilot project for the distribution of menstrual products at the washroom trailers.

- The four week pilot project will distribute menstrual products at two of three trailers at an estimated cost of \$5,000 with the funding source being Canadian Medical Association Funds (CMAF).
- The product will be free of cost to the user and distributed by the site leads or peer support individual at the trailer sites. The site of the 3rd trailer already has this service.
- Staff will monitor the uptake of this service during the pilot phase and provide recommendations.

For questions or information, please contact Gracen Chungath, EOC, Deputy Director, Planning and Delivery at EOC.DeputyDirector1@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Sadhu

Sadhu Aufochs Johnston | City Manager
Office of the City Manager | City of Vancouver
604.873.7627 | sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca

Pronouns: he, him, his



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

MEMORANDUM

June 9, 2020

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Rena Kendall-Craden, Civic Engagement and Communications Director
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Alvin Singh, Communications Director, Mayor's Office
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Sandra Singh, GM, Arts Culture and Community Services
Daniel Stevens, EOC, Director
Ashley Hooper, EOC, Deputy Chief, Operations

FROM: Darrell Reid, COVID-19 Response Task Force Chief, and GM, Vancouver Fire Rescue Services
Gracen Chungath, EOC Deputy Director, Planning and Delivery

SUBJECT: Four week pilot project for the provision of menstrual supplies in washroom trailers

PURPOSE

This memo provides information regarding the proposal of a four week pilot project to distribute menstrual products at 2 of 3 recently deployed washroom trailers. The product will be free of cost to the user and distributed by the site leads or peer support individual at the trailer sites. The site of the 3rd trailer already has this service. These stations are key community resources in addressing vulnerabilities within our dual public health emergencies across response and recovery phases of the pandemic, ensuring the City meets the basic necessity for menstrual products is integral for ensuring access to hygiene.

BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 crisis created strain on vulnerable people who experience menstruation. Menstruation products are a basic necessity, but when living in poverty or are vulnerable in other ways – access to tampons, pads, cups or menstrual underwear, can be challenging.

According to a study by WISH, 75% of female sex workers are unable to pay for groceries, rent, and basic supplies (including menstrual products). Additionally, there are people who experience menstruation/monthly bleeding who do not identify as women (they may be gender diverse, non-binary, trans men, etc who make up 5% of Vancouver's homeless population) and also face a loss of income and may find it difficult to maintain menstrual hygiene.

For context, based on the data from the 2019 Vancouver Homeless Report the following populations may be impacted by this service.

Number of homeless females	Number of homeless Transgender Menstruators	Number of homeless menstruators	Total number of menstruators accessing washroom trailers
132	14	146	200

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Using \$5,000 of the Canadian Medical Association Foundation funding for washroom trailers, the EOC will purchase menstrual products and introduce a 4 week pilot project to provide a free of cost to user at 2 (Site 1 & 2) of the 3 locations.

At Site 1 and 2, the product will be distributed by the site leads/peer network

- Site 1: Wish Drop-In Location, 334 Alexander St
 - Open and Monitored: 24/7
- Site 2: OPS, 62 E Hastings St
 - Open and Monitored: 8 am – 8 pm
- Site 3: Church of Nazarene - 998 E 19th Ave
 - RainCity is currently providing menstruation products at the Kingsway Church of Nazarene location.

The assumption is that \$5,000 will provide enough product for a 4 week supply at Site1 and 2 and staff will work closely with site leads to monitor supply levels.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION

1. The EOC will coordinate the logistics of delivery to the first two sites.
2. The products will be operationally managed by location leads and distributed in the same manner as harm reduction supplies.
3. Over the 4 week, the EOC will monitor the progress and report back findings of this pilot project.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information or queries, please contact Gracen Chungath, EOC, Deputy Director, Planning and Delivery at EOC.DeputyDirector1@vancouver.ca.

Sincerely,



Darrell Reid
COVID-19 Response Task Force Chief, Fire Chief and GM of VFRS