

**From:** "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**CC:** "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"  
"Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>  
**Date:** 7/10/2020 1:36:05 PM  
**Subject:** RE: rumour about shelters

Dear Mayor and Council,

We received a Councillor request to confirm the validity of a rumour that shelters are closing on June 30.

Staff have considered and the only thing they can think of is perhaps the rumours may be referring to the de-activation of the Emergency Response Centres at Coal Harbour and Roundhouse Community Centres. As you know, over the last three months, the community centres have been used as temporary Emergency Response Centres to create additional shelter capacity for people experiencing homelessness who needed a safe and supportive space during the COVID-19 pandemic. Activating and operating the ERCs was a partnership with BC Housing, Vancouver Coastal Health, and were operated by Community Builders Group and Lookout Housing and Health Society.

Prior to de-activation of the ERCs, each guest was provided with temporary accommodation by BC Housing, depending on their needs and the options available. BC Housing, who funded the ERCs, released a sector bulletin update to announce the deactivation of the ERCs to shelter providers in Vancouver, and the City of Vancouver updated its website with this [update](#) as well. There is not a confirmed timeline for re-opening community centres. The Park Board will provide information on re-openings as soon as decisions are made.

I believe we updated Council on the deactivation plans for the ERCs earlier in June.

Staff are working with VCH and BC Housing to ensure we are ready with a plan in the event of a second wave in the fall and staff will apprise Council of that plan once it is finalized.

Best,  
Sadhu

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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.*