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To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
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Date: 9/10/2020 3:24:27 PM
Subject: Update: Programming at Social Operations

Dear Mayor and Council,

We recently received a request for information about the types of programming happening at our Social Operations: Evelyne Saller Centre, Gathering Place, and Carnegie Centre. I thought that you would all be interested so am sending to response to everyone.

Recognizing that COVID response continues to impact operations and that these centres are currently in their Phase II of Restart, limited and modified programming has restarted in alignment with health guidelines change and as staff return to their programming roles from their reassignment in essential service functions. The Social Operations team is actively working on its next phase of restart to expand access to the centres and increase community programming with plans to launch Phase 3 in the Fall. Current programming includes:

Evelyne Saller:

- Bingo every Friday afternoon, 2 sessions of 10 people each. We've consistently been full.
- TV afternoon on Saturdays, we're showing DVDs that patrons have chosen.
- Painting of the picnic tables in our parklet. This is an outdoor activity.

Carnegie:

- Cultural Sharing "to go" on Monday evenings, where patrons can connect with the Elder in Residence to smudge, and pick up to-go arts kits, re-usable masks made by local elders, and medicines
- Digital cultural teachings, offered by elders including Carnegie's Elder in Residence, recorded on site and streamed online
- Distribution of cultural care packages including information, meal vouchers, arts and crafts activities, and COVID information for special events such as Asian Heritage Month, Powell Street Festival, Pride, and upcoming Lunar New Year
- In-reach activities for seniors that are isolating, including mail-back BINGO to encourage safe connection, movement, and sustained relationship with community in English, Mandarin and Cantonese
- Administering the DTES Small Arts Grants program (new grant cycle launches in early October)
- Modified VPL services from Tuesday – Saturday, 12 – 4 pm (services include book and DVD loan, hold pick up, returns, daily news and puzzles, and library card sign up)
- Free phone and community voicemail access
- The CCCA is also publishing the Carnegie Newsletter 2x/month.

Gathering Place

- Matinee movies every Friday
- Bingo
- Vancouver Public Library DVD exchange with the Community Librarian
- Themed Wednesdays including food, music and art/cultural projects
- For the month of August and September, staff have had a weekly community artist visiting to paint our outdoor picnic tables in our parklet

Oppenheimer Park

- Mobile community programming and outreach has begun in the surrounding neighbourhood including a hydration station and community conversations regarding the re-opening of the park
- Limited on-site programming will be the first week of October at the east end of the park, coordinated closely with park restoration efforts. Initial programming will include:
 - replanting the Indigenous medicinal garden with Park Board and members of the urban Indigenous community;
 - restoring the volunteer memorial bench with Park Board and members of the Latin American community;
 - arts-based community conversations about future programs and services; and
 - tech and literacy education programming in partnership with CapU (who runs the Carnegie Learning Centre).
- The repairs to the field house will still take some time, so for the time being, the team will deliver services in a more pop-up format.

Staff are scaling up arts, cultural, educational and recreational programs and services wherever able so these lists are evolving.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact GM of ACCS Sandra Singh directly at Sandra.singh@vancouver.ca

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.