

**From:** "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" <CCDTMACDL@vancouver.ca>  
**Date:** 8/17/2016 11:11:32 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Update - Heat Special Weather Statement - Level 1 implementation of IRG

Greetings Mayor and Council-

Please find below an update on our work regarding the summer heat. As you can see from below, we aren't expecting a heat health emergency, but we are taking some steps to support vulnerable people.

Best

Sadhu

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Good morning,

As per the CoV's Extreme Heat IRG, a conference call was held with CoV departmental leads, Environment Canada, and Vancouver Coastal Health today to assess risk and review actions over the next few days. The following is an update on the Special Weather Statement issued yesterday by Environment Canada, and a summary of response actions from the City of Vancouver. For more detailed information on the City's actions during a response, please refer to the Extreme Heat IRG shared yesterday by Daniel Stevens.

#### Summary

- Criteria for a heat health emergency, or a heat warning will not be met in Vancouver.
- Response actions are being implemented in accordance with a Level 1 IRG activation – this is the lowest activation level given relatively low risk.
- Environment Canada issued a Special Weather Statement based on the regional forecast, and the IRG is triggered based on this.
- Temperatures are expected to be highest inland (up to 34 in Abbotsford) but will remain in the mid – high 20s in coastal areas, including Vancouver, where heat is forecast to peak tomorrow (Thurs).
- No additional actions are anticipated as Environment Canada has confirmed that there will not be a heat warning issued.

#### Forecast

Environment Canada 5 day forecast for Vancouver (Temps will be several degrees higher inland). [https://weather.gc.ca/city/pages/bc-74\\_metric\\_e.html](https://weather.gc.ca/city/pages/bc-74_metric_e.html)

## Current Conditions

[Past 24 hours](#) | [Radar](#) | [Satellite](#) | [Lightning](#)


19°C

°C | °F

Observed at: Vancouver Int'l Airport

Date: 10:00 AM PDT Wednesday 17 August 2016

Condition: **Sunny**

Pressure: 101.9 kPa

Tendency: **rising**

Visibility: 48 km

Temperature: 18.7°C

Dewpoint: 13.4°C

Humidity: 71%

Wind: WNW 31 km/h

## Forecast

[24 Hour Forecast](#) | [AQHI](#) | [Alerts](#) | [Jet Stream](#)

Wed 17 Aug	Thu 18 Aug	Fri 19 Aug	Sat 20 Aug	Sun 21 Aug	Mon 22 Aug	Tue 23 Aug
23°C	24°C	25°C	25°C	24°C	26°C	25°C
15°C	16°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	

Issued: 5:00 AM PDT Wednesday 17 August 2016

Actions**Access to Drinking Water:**

- Temporary water fountains have been deployed around the City since July, map of water fountains is available online and will be distributed by comms
- Community Centres and Libraries will allow clients to access water from kitchens
- VFRS will attend encampment at 58 West to check on safety, share information about access to water, and provide water if needed
- No additional actions identified

**Cooling Centres**

- Parks and CS community centres will install Cooling Centre signage from today until Sunday (when heat will be sufficiently decreased)

**Messaging and Safety**

- Corp Comms to issue heat safety information as per plan – heat safety information and location of water fountains can be found here: <http://vancouver.ca/people-programs/hot-weather.aspx>
- Health has information on heat safety on their site, no additional actions anticipated for Vancouver area
- Parks, VPD, VFRS and CS staff will provide information to clients and the public about heat safety, cooling centres and water access
- CS to take assigned actions regarding communications with SROs, in particular the Regent where the elevator is down.
- Messaging sent to Vancouver Volunteer Corps to encourage vigilance and check on neighbours

Unless the situation changes, there will be no further updates on this event.

Please give me a call or email with any questions or concerns,

Katie

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**From:** Stevens, Daniel

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2016 1:19 PM

**To:** Corporate Management Team (COV) - DL; EM NOTI Extreme Heat - DL

**Cc:** Emergency Management Staff - DL; Postma, Tobin; Sandhu, Jag

**Subject:** Environment Canada issued Special Weather Statement for upcoming prolonged hote weather

### Extreme Heat Initial Response Guideline triggered.

#### Summary

This is a notification we have reached the first level in our Extreme Heat Initial Response Guideline (IRG). The risk is low as the population is better adapted to heat at this time in the summer. EM will be conducting a brief conference call with internal partners tomorrow to discuss any required actions as per our Extreme Heat IRG.

#### Background

Environment Canada has issued a Special Weather Statement (SWS) for prolonged heat. This is the trigger for the first level in our Extreme Heat IRG. The Special Weather Statement is issued based on an algorithm that examines the forecast temperature regionally, not only in the City of Vancouver. Note: this is not a Heat Warning which is our second level in our Extreme Heat IRG and level of most concern.

Special Weather Statement: [https://weather.gc.ca/warnings/report\\_e.html?bc42](https://weather.gc.ca/warnings/report_e.html?bc42).

#### Risk Assessment

Environment Canada has issued the special weather statement based on forecast temperatures peaking on Thursday (in this case, it's two consecutive days forecast of 32 degrees in Abbotsford that have triggered the SWS). The forecast for the City of Vancouver is for a high of 25 on Thursday. A complete forecast for the week is Vancouver is here:

Forecast							24 Hour Forecast	AGHI	Alerts	Jet Stream
Tue 15 Aug	Wed 17 Aug	Thu 18 Aug	Fri 19 Aug	Sat 20 Aug	Sun 21 Aug	Mon 22 Aug				
										
23°C	22°C	25°C	25°C	25°C	26°C	25°C	14°C	16°C	17°C	
							15°C	16°C	15°C	

(Forecast: [https://weather.gc.ca/city/pages/bc-74\\_metric\\_e.html](https://weather.gc.ca/city/pages/bc-74_metric_e.html)).

Given that we are into August, the population has already adapted to heat and the risk is lower than a similar period of heat earlier on in the summer.

#### Actions and Next Steps

- Given this period of heat is taking place late in the summer, Vancouver Coastal Health will not be issuing their usual messaging that would normally accompany this special weather statement.
- As per our Extreme Heath IRG, Emergency Management will hold a brief conference call with the Extreme Heat partners tomorrow morning to confirm any actions required. We will provide a summary after that call. The conference call information will be sent in a separate e-mail.

If you have any questions, please let me know. Attached is a copy of our Extreme Heat IRG for reference.

Daniel