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To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" <CCDTMACDL@vancouver.ca>
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Subject: Heat/air quality advisories

Greetings Mayor and Councillors,

As of yesterday (Monday), Environment Canada has issued a heat warning for the Lower Mainland/Fraser Valley. The forecast calls for unseasonably warm temperatures on Tuesday and Wednesday. Although highs in the low/mid 30's are expected in the Fraser Valley, the temperatures in the City of Vancouver are expected to reach the high 20's. The current conditions are expected to change on Wednesday evening, with much cooler forecasts through the end of the week. Fortunately, VCH advises that increased temperatures late in the summer pose much lesser health risks as people have had several months to acclimatize.

Along with the heat, there has also been a significant deterioration in air quality due to wildfire smoke. While the smoke can present challenges for those with respiratory and other chronic health conditions, it is also possible that the smoke will have a positive effect of mitigating the temperature.

Our staff team convened with representatives from Environment Canada and Vancouver Coastal Health yesterday afternoon to review the above-referenced conditions and the City's response measures. Our cooling centres remain in operation, including extended hours until 11pm for the centres located in the DTES. As of yesterday, we had not experienced any increase in traffic at cooling centre locations. We are also continuing the deployment of temporary water fountains around the City and staff in the DTES are taking additional steps to ensure that vulnerable residents in that neighbourhood have access to water.

VFRS, VPD and Park Rangers are monitoring closely for individuals who may be suffering adverse effects from the heat/smoke and we are providing an increased level of vigilance for residents in City-operated housing facilities.

Please let me know if you have any questions at this time.

Best,
Paul

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