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**Date:** 1/28/2020 2:50:35 PM  
**Subject:** Coronavirus - CoV preparation

Good afternoon Mayor and Council,

I am writing to provide a brief update on the work that we have initiated in response to the outbreak of a new coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in China and the expanding spread of the virus to other countries, including Canada.

As you may be aware, two cases of nCoV have been confirmed in Ontario and, earlier today, the BC provincial health officer identified one case in British Columbia. That individual resides within the VCH region and has recent travel history to the source of the outbreak in Wuhan. The individual is in self-isolation at home and is being monitored closely by public health officials. The Public Health Agency of Canada, the provincial health officer and local health authorities continue to assess the risk to the public as low.

Commencing last week, our Emergency Management team activated an internal response to the outbreak. We have convened representatives of several departments to monitor the rapidly-evolving information regarding the outbreak and to assess our organizational preparedness. Emergency Management is in close contact with VCH and Health Emergency Management BC and we are calibrating our response based on advice from health professionals. At this time, VCH is recommending against stockpiling goods or other extraordinary measures.

We will keep Council and staff apprised as this situation unfolds over the coming weeks and months. We are deferring to the provincial health officials and VCH in respect of any public communications about nCoV and the implications for residents.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter.

Best,  
Paul

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