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**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**CC:** "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"  
**Date:** 3/14/2020 12:27:06 PM  
**Subject:** COVID-19 update; March 14, 12:00h

Good afternoon Mayor and Council,

Dr. Henry and Minister Dix have provided an update on the COVID-19 outbreak in BC. Dr. Henry announced a 9 new cases over the past 24 hours, bringing the total for BC to 73. 7 of the 9 cases are in the Vancouver Coastal region. 3 cases are in hospital and 6 people have recovered.

16 cases are associated with a single long-term residence in North Vancouver. Public health is monitoring that cluster very closely and expects additional cases to emerge there.

Dr. Henry also outlined a change in the province's testing strategy for COVID-19. Tests are being prioritized for cluster outbreaks, health care workers and individuals in hospitals and long-term care. Individuals with or without mild symptoms who do not require medical care are advised that they do NOT need to be tested, irrespective of travel history.

Minister Dix indicated that health authorities are working to stand up new mobile facilities to assess patients who may need tests and to conduct those tests. The details of those new facilities will be announced by the health authorities once they are operational. Health authorities are also adjusting their acute care operations, potential including deferral of non-urgent procedures, to create capacity for COVID-related demand.

Finally, Dr. Henry and Minister Dix have asked the public to refrain from purchasing unnecessary quantities of groceries and supplies. The Retail Council has confirmed that supply chains remain functional and there is no need for purchases that may be driven by anxiety.

We will provide an update on the City's work on this situation closer to 6pm today.

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.*