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**Date:** 3/17/2020 3:07:25 PM  
**Subject:** Staff/Council Briefing Tomorrow Morning at 8:30 for COVID Update

Good Afternoon Mayor and Council

We would like to provide you with an update via phone tomorrow morning from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM. I will send out a calendar invite. We are planning a press conference for tomorrow afternoon to provide an update to the public as well.

This afternoon we will making a public announcement about further changes public facilities. These measures are intended to further mitigate the spread of COVID-19 while ensuring essential services are maintained.

Included in the list of closures and service modifications effective this afternoon are:

- Public access to the Services Centre, Revenue Services, Engineering Services at Crossroads will be limited to appointments and we are working to implement digital solutions such as video conferencing and greater use of phone and email
- Council-appointed advisory meetings, open houses, workshops, pop-up and street activities, along with rezoning open houses are suspended until further notice
- All boards and commissions are suspended until further notice
- Permits will be limited to the maximum guidelines set out by the Provincial Health Officer as of the day of the event, with any current permits for gatherings of 50 or more people to be revoked
- The Park Board has cancelled all permits for special events at all of its facilities, effective immediately and until May 30. Permit holders will be issued a refund and will receive priority booking once special events resume
- The Park Board is working toward full closure of children's day camps at its community centres by the end of the day on Friday, March 20
- Operating hours at Carnegie and Evelyne Saller Community Centres are being reduced to 9:00 am - 8:00 pm but food services at Gathering Place and shower and laundry services at Evelyne Saller will continue to ensure that people have access to these meals. These centres will take a room-by-room approach to reducing group size to less than 50 people.
- The Homelessness Services Outreach team continues to operate as an essential service and their office at 392 Powell remains open from 9am-4pm
- Eleven handwashing stations have been deployed in the Downtown Eastside to increase access to hand-washing facilities.
- We are no longer taking bookings for memorial services at Mountain View Cemetery but casket burials and interments will continue

**These services remain unaffected:**

- Inspections and enforcement, such as fire, development, buildings and licensing will continue as is
- The Vancouver Transfer Station and Landfill, as well the Manitoba and National Works Yard will continue to operate as is.

We look forward to briefing you tomorrow and addressing your questions.

Best  
Sadhu

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