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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)

Date: 12/28/2021 11:31:42 AM

Subject: [IB: City extends warming centre operations amid cold snap \(Dec. 28, 2021\)](#)

Attachments: Vancouver EWR Notification 20211228.pdf

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Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below information bulletin to update on the City's forward planning related to warming centres and extreme weather response operations through to January 3, 2022. The bulletin will go live shortly.

*Please note: the link to the full table of warming centres is not yet updated, but will point to the new, updated PDF (attached) once the bulletin goes live.*

The City continues to circulate extreme weather and shelter information via social media and on our website, and would greatly appreciate if you are able to amplify these posts to your networks to help spread the word of locations and hours.

Best,  
Paul

**City of Vancouver**  
**Information Bulletin**  
**December 28, 2021**

## **City extends warming centre operations amid cold snap**

In response to the extreme cold temperatures this week, the City of Vancouver is extending Warming Centre operations to provide additional capacity for people to come indoors between Dec. 28, 2021 to Jan. 2, 2022. Warming Centres are activated in addition to Extreme Weather Response Shelters as an additional life-saving response for people sleeping outside when the temperature reaches -5°C or below (or it feels like -5°C or below). They are in addition to other initiatives taken by the City and the Province to ensure people in Vancouver who are experiencing homelessness have a place to keep warm during the winter months.

### *Warming Centres*

The City encourages anyone who is sleeping outside to visit one of these centres, which are open to all, including people who have pets and carts. Centres will provide hot drinks and snacks. Up to 161 Warming Centre spaces have been created to bring people inside:

- ☐ **Powell Street Getaway** (528 Powell St.): Open daily 9 pm to 7 am
- ☐ **Odd Fellows Hall** (1443 W 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.): Open daily 9:30 pm to 8 am (Bikes, but no pets or carts)
- ☐ **Britannia Community Centre (Gym D)** (1661 Napier St.): Open daily 8 pm to 6:30 am
- ☐ **West End Community Centre** (870 Denman St.): Open Dec. 28 and 29 from 11 pm to 6 am, Dec. 30 and 31, 11 pm to 9 am, Jan. 1 to 3, 11 pm to 6 am (no carts)
- ☐ **First Avenue Shelter** (1648 E 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.): Open daily 10 pm to 9 am
- ☐ **First United** (320 E Hastings St.): Open Dec. 28 to 30, 10 pm to 7 am (men only)
- ☐ **Longhouse Council of Native Ministry** (2595 Franklin St.): Open Dec. 28 to 30, 10 pm to 6 am

Measures are in place at all Warming Centre locations to reduce the risk of transmission of

COVID-19. **Face masks** are required for everyone accessing Warming Centres and will be provided for free if needed. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination is **not required** to access Warming Centres.

Health or social services provided to people in need, such as warming centres, are exempt from the Provincial Health Officer Gatherings and Events Order and are not subject to event or capacity limitations as announced on Dec. 21, 2021.

### *Extreme Weather Response (EWR) Shelters*

EWR shelters are funded by BC Housing and are [activated when an extreme weather alert is issued](#) for Vancouver, when there is sleet or freezing rain, snow accumulation, and/or temperatures at or below 0°C, or "feels like" 0°C with wind chill. Up to 114 spaces have been created at the following locations to bring people inside:

- ❑ **Directions Youth Services Centre** (1138 Burrard St.): Open 10 pm to 7 am
- ❑ **Tenth Church** (11 10th Ave W at Ontario St): Open 9:30 pm to 9 am
- ❑ **Cascades Church** (3833 Boundary Road, west side of Boundary): Open 9:30 pm to 9 am
- ❑ **Evelyne Saller Centre** (320 Alexander St.): Open 11 pm to 7:30 am (Final intake at 1:00 am)
- ❑ **Langara YMCA** (282 W 49th Ave., south side of 49th): Open 8 pm to 8 am
- ❑ **Bud Osborn EWR** (27 West Hastings St.): Open 7:30 pm to 7:30 am

PLEASE NOTE: Alerts for these EWR and Warming Centre spaces are circulated to partner agencies, community centre staff, outreach program staff and a variety of agencies serving individuals experiencing homelessness. Details are posted to our website and social media channels and [available here](#). **Please check daily for any updates on locations and openings.**

In addition to the extreme weather drop-in spaces above, there are also permanent and temporary shelters in operation. Those looking for shelter space can call 2-1-1 to check availability or find a [full list of shelters online](#).

The City thanks the community organizations who make their facilities available as Warming Centres and EWR Shelters on these coldest nights of the year.

### **Additional Warm Spaces**

As a reminder, community centres, [public libraries](#) and other public buildings are also available during their opening hours as spaces for people to come inside to warm up:

City of Vancouver Community Centres:

- ❑ The Gathering Place (609 Helmcken St.): Open 8:45 am to 8 pm
- ❑ Carnegie Community Centre (401 Main St.): Open 9 am to 11 pm
- ❑ Evelyn Saller Centre (320 Alexander St.): Open Monday–Friday 9 am to 11 pm, Saturday and Sunday 10 am to 10 pm

Park Board Community Centres:

- ❑ <https://vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/community-and-cultural-centres.aspx>

Vancouver Public Library

- ❑ Central Library Branch Atrium and Washroom (350 W Georgia St.): Open Dec. 28 to 30 from 7 am to 9 pm, Dec. 31, 7 am to 6:30 pm, and Jan. 1, 8 am to 8 pm.
- ❑ Library Branches: <https://www.vpl.ca/hours-locations>

Please check City of Vancouver social media accounts for warming centre spaces open beyond Jan. 2, 2022. The City is monitoring the evolving weather forecast closely and will be taking additional

measures as needed.

### **City Continues 24/7 Snow and Ice Removal Efforts**

In response to freezing temperatures and snow, City crews are continuing to monitor the weather and a coordinated response plan for snow and ice treatment is underway. Key routes including major roads, bus routes, bridges and the 15 most-used walking pathways and bike routes are currently being treated with brine ahead of potential snow and ice conditions.

The City's response through the week will be guided by the weather. With over 100 vehicles, 8,000 tonnes of guaranteed salt supply, and hundreds of personnel available to deploy as required, crews will remain focused on keeping priority routes clear of snow and ice. If your vehicle is parked on a major route, please plan ahead by moving it to a side street or garage.

#### **A map of the City's prioritized plan can be viewed here.**

Due to the freezing temperatures, green bin collection has been temporarily suspended this week. Sanitation crews will focus on collecting garbage, which is picked up every two weeks. Street crews are also working on secondary routes to assist with garbage collection. The City appreciates the public's patience with these service delays.

Residents also have a critical role to play in our snow and ice response. Following a snow event, all property owners and tenants must clear snow and ice from sidewalks adjacent to their property or residence the morning after a snowfall, seven days a week.

The City also encourages residents and businesses to lend a hand to those who are unable to shovel their own sidewalks, particularly seniors and people with mobility challenges by **signing up to become a Snow Angel.**

#### **More information on the City's winter response is available here.**

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#### **Media contact:**

Civic Engagement and Communications

**media@vancouver.ca**

# VANCOUVER EXTREME WEATHER RESPONSE



**ALERT:** An Extreme Weather Alert has been extended on December 28, 2021 through January 3, 2022 due to: *feels like temperatures at or below 0°C.*

**Extra shelter spaces will open at:**

Site	Dec 28	Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31	Jan 01	Jan 02	Jan 03	# of mats
<b>Directions Youth Services Centre</b> – 1138 Burrard St Will provide overnight accommodation to 7 youth (24 year of age and under). Open 10:00pm to 7:00am for EWR program. Mats provided after midnight. Pets accepted to a maximum of four (4) animals. <b>Phone: 604-633-1472 EXT 1</b>	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	7 youth
<b>Tenth Church</b> – 11 10 <sup>th</sup> Ave W (at Ontario St) Operates between 9:30pm and 9:00am. Light refreshments and showers available. Small carts can be stored onsite. Pet friendly program, some restrictions may apply. Entrance on alley side of the building. <b>Phone: 778-953-5385</b>	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	15 Adult 19+
<b>Cascades Church</b> –3833 Boundary Road (West side of Boundary) Operates between 9:30pm and 9:00am. Food offered upon intake and in the morning. Enter through left side door in rear parking lot (off laneway) No pets or cart storage. Not wheelchair accessible. <b>Phone: 604-655-4345</b> (during operating hours only)	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	10 Adult 19+
<b>Evelyne Saller Centre</b> – 320 Alexander St Operates between 11:00pm and 7:30am <u>Final intake at 1:00am.</u> Food offered before going to sleep and in the morning. No pets. No Carts. <b>Phone: 604-665-3075</b>	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	42 Adult 19+
<b>Langara YMCA</b> –282 W 49th Ave (South side of 49th) Operates between 8:00pm and 8:00am. Food offered upon intake and in the morning. Enter using Gym doors at the rear parking lot. No pets. <b>Phone: 604-762-4584</b> (during opening hours only)	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	20 Adult 19+
<b>Bud Osborn EWR</b> – 27 West Hastings Street Operates between 7:30pm and 7:30am. Hot meal offered at night w/ continental breakfast in the morning. Low barrier, wheelchair accessible site (no stairs). Pet friendly program: aggressive dogs must be muzzled. Cats/rodents must have a carrying case. Cart storage as space allows. Shower available. <b>Phone: 778-222-8988</b>	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	20 Adult 19+

**IF YOU ARE SLEEPING OUTSIDE, PLEASE COME TO THE SAFETY OF THE SHELTERS!**

# WARMING CENTRE ACTIVATION

December 28, 2021 through January 2, 2022

Site	Dec 28	Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31	Jan 01	Jan 02	Spaces Available
<b>Powell Street Getaway</b> – 528 Powell St Will open between 9:00pm and 7:00am. Drop-in site can accommodate pets, bikes, and carts. Couples are welcome. Hot beverages and snacks are available. No reservation required.	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	40
<b>Odd Fellows Hall</b> –1443 W 8th Ave Open 9:30pm-8:00am. Drop-in site can accommodate bikes. Cannot accept pets or carts. All genders and couples welcome. Hot beverages and snacks are available. Not accessible. No reservation required.	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	20
<b>Britannia Community Centre</b> (Gym D) – 1661 Napier St Open 8:00pm to 6:30am. Drop-in site can accommodate pets, bikes, and carts. All genders and couples welcome. Hot beverages and snacks are available. Accessible. No reservation required.	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	25
<b>West End Community Centre</b> – 870 Denman St (enter on Haro St) Dec 28 and 29: Open 11pm-6am. Dec 30 and 31: Open 11pm – 9am Jan 1 and 2: Open 11pm – 6am . Drop-in site can accommodate pets. All genders and couples welcome. Hot beverages and snacks are available. Accessible. No reservation required.	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	16
<b>First Avenue Shelter</b> – 1648 East First Avenue Open 10pm to 9am. Drop-in site can accommodate pets, bikes and carts. All genders and couples. Hot beverages and snacks are available. Not accessible. No reservation required.	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	20
<b>First United</b> – 320 East Hastings Open 10:00pm to 7:00am. Drop-in site can accommodate pets. MEN ONLY. Hot beverages and snacks are available. Accessible. No reservation required.	Open	Open	Open	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	20 Men Only
<b>Longhouse Council of Native Ministry</b> – 2595 Franklin Street Open 10:00pm to 6:00am (may open until 9am before Jan 1). Drop-in site can accommodate pets. All genders and couples. Hot beverages and snacks are available. Accessible. No reservation required.	Open	Open	Open	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	20