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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 10/19/2022 11:33:39 AM
Subject: [Upcoming information bulletin: Cleaner air spaces open in Vancouver during air quality advisory \(Oct. 19, 2022\)](#)

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below information bulletin today (Oct.19), to notify media of the activation of cleaner air spaces due to accumulating wildfire smoke and the prolonged air quality advisory issued by [Metro Vancouver](#), and as recommended by VCH. This is to let members of the public know where cleaner air spaces are located as relief from the wildfire smoke. Information on cleaner air space locations will be available at vancouver.ca/wildfire-smoke and shared via the City's social media channels.

Best,

Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), S^kwx[\]u817_wú7mesh (Squamish), and səilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

City of Vancouver
Information bulletin
October 19, 2022

Cleaner air spaces open in Vancouver during air quality advisory *City sites provide relief from wildfire smoke*

In response to the [air quality advisory issued by Metro Vancouver](#) on October 14 and accumulating smoke being experienced, the City of Vancouver is activating cleaner air spaces for members of the public looking for relief from wildfire smoke.

- Smoke concentrations can vary widely across the Metro Vancouver region as winds and temperatures shift and wildfire behavior outside the region changes.
- City Staff have been monitoring air quality closely and based on the duration that wildfire smoke has been impacting the city, the cumulating health effects and advice from Vancouver Coastal Health, the City of Vancouver is activating cleaner air spaces.
- Residents are encouraged to take steps to reduce their exposure to wildfire smoke.

Where to find cleaner air in Vancouver

The following community centres and Vancouver Public Library (VPL) branches offer cleaner air spaces:

- Carnegie Community Centre
- Evelyne Saller Centre
- Gathering Place Community Centre
- Creekside Community Centre
- Hillcrest Community Centre
- Mount Pleasant Community Centre
- West End Community Centre
- VPL – Britannia Branch
- VPL – Central Library
- VPL – Joe Fortes Branch
- VPL – Kerrisdale Branch
- VPL – Mount Pleasant Branch
- VPL – Renfrew Branch
- VPL – Terry Salman Branch

These sites offer indoor spaces with high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) or MERV 13 filtering, which can create cleaner indoor air and support people experiencing health effects from smoky air.

Wildfire smoke is a complex mixture of different air pollutants that can cause mild or severe health effects when inhaled. Groups of people who are at higher risk of experiencing health effects are:

- People with pre-existing chronic conditions such as asthma, COPD, heart disease and diabetes
- People who are pregnant
- Infants and small children
- Elderly
- People who have been diagnosed with respiratory infection such as COVID-19

Symptoms caused by wildfire smoke

Wildfire smoke can cause mild symptoms, such as lung irritation, eye irritation, runny nose, sore throat, headaches, or mild cough. These symptoms are signs to reduce your exposure to wildfire smoke and can generally be managed without medical attention.

Some people may experience more severe symptoms and should seek prompt medical attention. Call 8-1-1, visit a walk-in clinic, or call 9-1-1 in an emergency, if you are experiencing:

- Shortness of breath
- Chest discomfort
- Heart palpitations
- Dizziness
- Severe cough
- Wheezing

For cleaner air centre maps, hours and more information on the City's response to extreme heat and poor air quality, visit vancouver.ca/wildfiresmoke.

To stay up-to-date on air quality, please visit metrovancover.org.

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