

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
Date: 1/26/2023 2:23:23 PM
Subject: Upcoming Information bulletin: Extreme weather shelters and warming centres (January 27, 2023)

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City will issue the information bulletin below on January 27, reminding the public of extreme weather shelters and warming centres available, as temperatures are set to plummet this weekend.

Please keep this information bulletin embargoed until it goes live from the City media email account approximately 1 p.m. Also please note that there may be small adjustments to the hours and locations in tomorrow's final version as these are confirmed, so please refer to that final as the correct record.

There will be corresponding social media posts with centre hours and reinforcing the message to stay safe in the cold. Please feel free to amplify these on your own networks.

Best,
Paul

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City of Vancouver
Information bulletin
January 27, 2023

City reminds public of extreme weather shelters and warming centres as temperatures drops

After a milder January, the forecast is calling for colder temperatures in Vancouver, with freezing temperatures arriving as early as this weekend.

The City and partners will be once again activating a variety of spaces to encourage people to come in from the cold, starting the evening of January 28.

Extreme Weather Response (EWR) shelters provide mats to sleep on and are open during extreme rain, wind, snow or when the temperature feels like 0°C or below. Depending on the location, visitors to these warm spaces may bring pets, bikes and carts with them.

Warming Centres are open when the temperature feels like -5°C or below or actual temperature of -4°C as a life-saving measure for people sleeping outside. While they are not set up with beds or mats, hot drinks and snacks are available.

The most up-to-date information on EWR and Warming Centre activations can be found on the City's social media pages, and at [Homelessness Services Association of BC's Emergency Weather Response Program Twitter account](#).

Extreme Weather Response Shelters

Extreme Weather Response (EWR) Shelters and Warming Centres are in addition to Temporary Winter Shelters, which are open every night between November and March.

EWR shelters are currently open to provide additional spaces at the following locations:

Directions Youth Services Centre

- 1138 Burrard Street
- 10pm – 7am

Cascades Church

- 3833 Boundary Road
- 9:30pm – 9am

Bud Osborn EWR

- 27 West Hastings Street
- 7pm – 7am

The Salvation Army Belkin House

- 555 Homer Street
- 9pm – 7am

Langara YMCA

- 282 West 49th Avenue
- 9:30pm – 7am

Additionally, Powell Street Getaway Warming Centre at 450 East Hastings Street is currently open at EWR parameters from 9pm to 7:30am.

The City extends its appreciation to the community organizations who make their spaces available to activate as Warming Centres and Extreme Weather Response Shelters and to the Province for funding these activations.

Media contact:

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