



VICTORIA DOWNTOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

COVID-19 Resources

The Victoria Downtown Residents Association has compiled a list of COVID-19 support resources to inform and assist residents. We will do our best to keep this as up-to-date as possible and add additional resources as we become aware of them. If you are aware of an additional resource that you think should be added, please send us an [email](#). Please be safe and look after others. See our [General Information](#) section at the bottom of this page.

Key Milestones

- January 30 - the World Health Organization (WHO) declared a Public Health Emergency regarding the outbreak of novel coronavirus (COVID-19). On March 11, WHO made the assessment that COVID-19 can be characterized as a pandemic.
- March 17- the Province of BC declared a state of emergency. This gives the Province a wide range of powers including access to land and human resource assets, securing the critical supply chains, and ensuring that necessary infrastructure is readily available. [Read more here](#).
- May 6 – [BC's Restart Plan](#) announced.

Federal Resources

- [Canada Emergency Response Benefit Application](#)
- [Support for Individuals and Families](#)
has information on the Canada Emergency Response Benefit that will provide a taxable benefit of \$2,000 a month for up to 4 months for workers who must stop working due to COVID-19 and others. Also applicable to students.
- [Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan: Support for Canadians and Businesses](#)
has information on income support programs, flexibility for taxpayers, mortgage management and more
- [Accessing EI in BC](#)
has information on submitting an EI claim, compiled by the B.C. Government Employees Union

Provincial Resources

- [BC Covid Support Resources](#) – excellent summary of support programs for individuals and families, businesses, organizations and industry
- [BC Temporary Rental Supplement](#) – applications are available online.
- [BC Crisis Supplement](#) – The province will provide a \$300 supplement each month for

the next 3 months for some residents who currently receive income and disability assistance. This for those who are not eligible for emergency federal programs like the \$2,000 Canada Emergency Response Benefit.

- [Province takes unprecedented steps to support COVID-19 response](#)
Order from Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General banning secondary resale of food, medical supplies, personal protective equipment, cleaning and other essential supplies, restricting quantities of items purchased at point of sale, enabling municipal bylaw officers to support enforcement of the provincial health officer's orders for business closures and gatherings, and other provisions.
- [B.C. Municipal Affairs and Housing - Supporting renters, landlords during COVID-19](#)
has details on the \$500/month temporary rental supplement and halting evictions and freezing rents
- [B.C. Public Safety - COVID-19 Provincial Support and Information](#)
has information on orders and notices, self-assessment, child care, education, transportation and more, includes details of the BC Emergency Benefit for Workers - a one-time \$1,000 payment for people who have lost income
- [B.C. Centre for Disease Control - COVID-19 Resources](#)
has information on symptoms, travel, pets, food safety, testing, isolation, case counts and more
- [Daily updates by Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer, and Adrian Dix, Minister of Health](#)
generally at 3:00 daily broadcast live on CBC Victoria, provides daily information on new and total cases, deaths, testing and more
- [COVID-19 Information for Strata Housing](#)

Victoria Resources

- [City of Victoria – Response to Covid-19](#)
information on city facilities, programs and services, initiatives, resource hub for local businesses, Mayor's updates and more
- [City of Victoria Neighbours Helping Neighbours COVID-19 page](#)
community and other links
- [City of Victoria Facebook Page](#)
offers the Mayor's daily update at 3:30 PM
- [Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce Job Board](#)
The Chamber is refocusing its Job Board to help connect current employment opportunities with workers affected by businesses that have closed.

Community Support Agencies

- [Mustard Seed](#) – focus is fighting hunger and operated Vancouver Island's largest food bank.
- [Our Place](#) - serves over 1,600 meals per day, and provides hot showers, free clothing, counselling and outreach services, plus 45 transitional housing units
- [Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness](#) – is developing a COVID-19 and Vulnerable Populations Support plan. One of their programs is the [Boxes of Hope](#) program that provides warm healthy meal to people in need and supports the local restaurant community.
- [Victoria Dandelion Society](#) – focus is on giving support to street people.

- [YYJ Healthcare Workers Housing](#) - volunteer project designed to connect property owners with healthcare workers that are looking for short-term housing
- [Volunteer Victoria](#) – information on volunteering during COVID-19

Other Resources

- [CBC - Tracking the coronavirus](#)
Good resources for tracking COVID-19 statistics in Canada and worldwide
- [Consult with a doctor online](#)
MediMap – the organization that tracks waiting times at walk-in medical clinics, is offering a resource for speaking with a walk-in clinic doctor, usually within 20 minutes
- [Food Eco District](#) – is seeking Greater Victoria residents who have been impacted by COVID-19 who could benefit from a growing their own food. For those who are struggling through this challenging time, FED will happily provide the gardening package free of charge.

General Information

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially every time you return home and before you prepare meals.
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, sneeze into your elbow or a tissue.
- Stay at home except for a daily exercise walk or for essential trips (for groceries, pharmacies, financial institutions, medical appointments, and other necessities).
- If you feel unwell, even if you think you only have a mild cold, stay at home and ask for the help of others to bring you groceries or other urgent needs. Avoid others who are unwell.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Do not congregate in groups and always maintain a physical separation of 2 metres from others.
- Anyone who is concerned that they may have been exposed to, or is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, should contact their health-care provider, or call 8-1-1. You can also call 1-888-COVID-19 or text 604-630-0300 for details, advice, and further information on the virus.
- Unfortunately the online scammer community is trying to take advantage of the pandemic emergency – the latest is a text scam to exploit the Federal Emergency Responsive Benefit – [see the CBC report](#). There will be more so please always use extreme caution when reading texts and emails.

- updated 19 May 2020