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**From:** Jackson, Steve  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 22, 2021 3:55 PM  
**To:** PB Commissioners  
**Cc:** Park Board GM's Office; PB SLT (Senior Leadership Team) - DL; PB Communications; Land, Jessica; Downie, Alex  
**Subject:** Commissioner Update - Updated Public Health Orders

Dear Commissioners,

Further to the update provided over the weekend, additional information is provided below in light of the additional restrictions announced yesterday by the PHO, which become effective at midnight tonight.

While staff are still awaiting guidance on a few additional specifics, we are able to confirm at this time the following impacts from the two most recent PHO orders on our public services:

**Recreation Services:**

Effective at opening of community centers on December 23, 2021, and in place until January 18, 2022:

- Fitness centres will be closed
- Adult exercise and fitness classes, as well as dance classes will be cancelled
- Pools and hot tubs will remain open with proof of vaccination now required
- Flexipass holders will have the option to place passes on hold as a result of service disruptions. This will be at the option of the pass holder as many activities (pools, rinks) and programs will remain in service
- Staff will be notifying all public room bookings of the requirement to follow the latest orders on indoor gatherings

In addition to the above, while not a requirement of the latest PHO order, saunas and steam rooms will be closed effective December 23, 2021 until January 18, 2022. Staff have identified these enclosed spaces as higher risk given there is low ventilation, and masks are not required. This is consistent to the approach being taken by many other municipalities.

**Business Services:**

- Festival of Lights at VanDusen Botanical Garden has eliminated indoor activities/components of the event, with the Visitor Centre now only providing the entry way to the garden, as well as access to public washrooms, the gift shop and to Truffles Café. Proof of vaccination and limiting garden capacity remains in place through prepaid tickets and timed entry, and masks remain mandatory in all indoor spaces.
- Bright Nights at the Stanley Park Miniature Railroad has implemented proof of vaccine requirements for the remainder of the event – refunds are being issued to all those unable to attend as a result of this change
- Indoor weddings and events booked at VanDusen Botanical Garden, Bloedel Conservatory, and the Queen Elizabeth Celebration Pavilion have been cancelled through to January 18, 2022.

Staff are working through our available communication channels to share the above updates with the public, including updates to social media, websites and 3-1-1.

In addition to the above impacts to services, the Board of Parks and Recreation has received a request from Vancouver Coastal Health to support the implementation of additional vaccination clinics. As of today, two community centres have been confirmed, in cooperation with impacted Community Centre Associations – Creekside Community Centre and

Killarney Community Center. These are expected to be in place by early to mid January. Additional vaccination and testing sites are being explored and will be shared once confirmed.

If you have any additional questions, please direct these to the General Manager's Office so that they can be properly routed and addressed.

Thank you for your ongoing support of staff during these challenging times.

**Steve Jackson, CPA CA** | Director, Business Services - Board of Parks and Recreation



*My pronoun is: he, him*

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*I acknowledge that we are on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish Nation, the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish) and səliłwəṭəł (Tseil-Waututh)*