



Statement from Mayor Helps on Island Health's First Case of COVID-19

Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2020

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — Mayor Lisa Helps has released the following statement in response to Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry's confirmation of Island Health's first case of COVID-19:

"I want to assure all Victoria residents and visitors that we are taking this issue seriously and are in communication with provincial health officials regarding standards and protocols.

We have recommended to all of our staff proper hand washing protocols and to stay home if they feel ill. I urge Victorians to follow this best practice to keep your family safe.

We have stepped up cleaning protocols at the Crystal Pool and other City facilities in response to the COVID-19 health concerns.

At this time, no City events or programs have been cancelled or rescheduled including Council meetings. As always, you can access many City services online.

All City facilities are open as usual. However, we continue to assess public health direction as new information becomes available.

My thanks to Dr. Bonnie Henry for her calm leadership; I recommend everyone continue to follow the Province's advice.

Additionally, my thanks to the federal government for their \$1 billion commitment announced this morning. These measures will assist the province and help our workers and businesses."

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