



## City of Victoria COVID-19 Update

Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2020

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — Victoria City Council continues to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and look at ways to support residents and businesses.

Today, the provincial government announced a three-month credit on BC Hydro bills for individual customers, and a three-month payment holiday for businesses. Premier Horgan asks that only people who need to apply for this do so.

With music venues closed and public events postponed, musicians around the world are finding creative ways to perform and share access to live music. The City of Victoria's Artist in Residence, Kathryn Calder, is no exception.

Calder will live stream a free 30-minute concert from her home on Friday, April 3 at 7:30 p.m. The solo set will include a selection of Calder's own songs as well as a couple of her favourites written by others. The community is invited to tune in to the concert on Kathryn Calder's YouTube channel at [youtube.com/user/KathrynCalder](https://youtube.com/user/KathrynCalder).

"The pandemic is causing great upheaval in our lives as we strive to adapt to this temporary new normal," said Mayor Lisa Helps. "Music is one way to relieve some of the anxiety we're all feeling and I'd like to thank Kathryn for performing this free concert online for people of all ages to enjoy from the comfort of their home."

Victoria-based musician, songwriter/ recording artist and recording studio owner Kathryn Calder was selected as the City's Artist in Residence in 2019. For the past 15 years, Kathryn has been recording and touring as a vocalist/ keyboardist with indie rock group The New Pornographers. She has also released three solo records, five albums with Immaculate Machine, and one album with her latest project, Frontperson. For more information, visit: [victoria.ca/publicart](https://victoria.ca/publicart).

To help support local businesses that are currently closed due to the pandemic, the public can purchase gift cards online for services later. Think Local First has partnered with VanCity to administer and develop the Support Local YYJ online service and Shopify has donated the webhosting. Weekly amounts of gift cards purchased will be sent to local businesses. To buy a gift card or for more information, visit: [supportlocalyyj.com](https://supportlocalyyj.com).

A reminder that tomorrow's regular scheduled evening Council Meeting will take place at noon, directly after the Committee of the Whole Meeting that starts at 9 a.m. Both meetings are live streamed and can be watched from home at [victoria.ca](https://victoria.ca).

The community is reminded they can make some noise in support of hardworking frontline workers daily at 7 p.m. by cheering, banging pots and pans, and honking horns.

For information on the City's response to COVID-19, the public is invited to tune into the Mayor's Facebook Live weekday updates at 2:30 p.m. on the City of Victoria Facebook page, and to visit [victoria.ca/covid19response](https://victoria.ca/covid19response).

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**For More Information:**

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