



City of Victoria COVID-19 Update

Date: Friday, May 29, 2020

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – Victoria City Council continues to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and explore ways to support the community.

Today, the federal Minister of Transport announced updated measures pertaining to cruise ships and passenger vessels in Canadian waters. Cruise ships carrying more than 100 people are prohibited from operating in Canadian waters until October 31, 2020.

Essential passenger vessels, like BC Ferries, will continue to operate using mitigation measures such as reducing the number of passengers or using alternative practices such as keeping people in their vehicles, and enhanced cleaning and hygiene measures to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. BC Ferries continues to ask the public to not travel by ferry unless it is essential.

“The tourism industry has been hard hit by COVID-19. And it is Tourism Week here in BC. As our businesses start to open up, I strongly encourage everyone to get out and support them,” said Mayor Lisa Helps. “If you can buy it locally, skip the Amazon cart. If you can drink it locally, skip the big major beer and wine producers, not to mention getting out to a restaurant if you’re able.”

National Accessibility Week is May 31 – June 6 and more specifically, June 6 is Accessibility Awareness Day here in BC. To further recognize the importance of accessibility, yesterday Council officially recognized National Accessibility Week with the signing of a proclamation.

“This week recognizes the contributions that individuals living with disabilities make in our communities each and every day,” said Mayor Helps. “And it also reminds us of the role we all have to play – business, government, community organizations – in removing barriers and building awareness.”

The Mayor’s Facebook Live COVID-19 updates take place on Fridays at 1 p.m. on the City of Victoria Facebook page. For more information on the City’s response and recovery to the pandemic, visit: victoria.ca/covid19response.

—30—

For More Information:

Bill Eisenhauer
Head of Engagement
City of Victoria
250.858.1061
beisenhauer@victoria.ca