

EMBC Freedom Of Information EMBC:EX

From: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX
Sent: June 29, 2021 15:58
To: Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX
Subject: FW: Heatwave - keeping people safe

Hi Stephen

Here's what we heard back from Surrey and Burnaby – centres are operating as noted below, along with the other Lower Mainland centres noted.

Tara

From: Maley, Madeline L EMBC:EX <Madeline.Maley@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 29, 2021 3:54 PM
To: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX <Tara.Richards@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: URGENT Heatwave - keeping people safe

the City of Surrey is indicating that they have multiple City locations available for water and cooling; however, they are not calling them cooling centres. The City of Burnaby is operating three cooling centres.

Madeline L. Maley (she/her)
Assistant Deputy Minister Regional Operations
Emergency Management BC
Phone: 250 704-3046 | Cell: 250 318-8441
24 Hour Emergency Reporting: 1-800-663-3456
Follow EMBC at [@EmergencyInfoBC](#) and [@PreparedBC](#)
Follow the OFC at [@BC_FireSafety](#) and [@BCFireSafety](#)

With gratitude, acknowledging I am working on the traditional territory of Tk'emlups Te Secwepemc people

From: Cunnings, Ian EMBC:EX <Ian.Cunnings@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 29, 2021 3:49 PM
To: Maley, Madeline L EMBC:EX <Madeline.Maley@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: URGENT Heatwave - keeping people safe

Madeline, the City of Surrey is indicating that they have multiple City locations available for water and cooling; however, they are not calling them cooling centres. The City of Burnaby is operating three cooling centres.

The following email was sent out this afternoon and I suspect we will see an uptake in requests for Heatwave support.

South West Emergency Management Partners

To assist Indigenous Communities and Local Governments in responding to the current Heat Wave the following is an overview of what supports are available through the Emergency Program Act:

- Reimbursements are limited to incremental costs, examples include:
 - o Staff wages/overtime to open a civic facility that would otherwise not be open.
 - o Workers Compensation coverage for ESS volunteers to support.
 - o Water for use/distribution within the facility.
 - o Transportation to and from cooling centers in communities where no scheduled public or reasonable transportation exists.
 - Requires Expense Authorization Form (EAF) approval from PREOC
- For communities that do not have suitable facilities, please contact EMBC to review and discussion options.
 - o Community requested by Health Authority to provide assistance to respond to impacts to current heat wave, those activities may be considered for reimbursement.
 - Would be considered through Expense Authorization Form (EAF) to the EMBC Regional Duty Manager or PREOC.
 - o Incremental costs to support fire service responding to increased heat related calls.
 - Would be considered through Expense Authorization Form (EAF) to the EMBC Regional Duty Manager or PREOC.
- "For Indigenous communities in BC, EMBC is working in close coordination with the First Nations Health Authority and Indigenous Services Canada to provide wrap-around supports to address public safety concerns. Please contact the EMBC Regions or PREOC if there are heat-related emergency needs or gaps in your community."

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact the SW PREOC at, 778-572-3962 or you can send your EAF forms to;
 s.17 After hours support is available by contacting the EMBC Emergency Coordination Centre at 1-800-663-3456.

From: Turner, Jordan GCPE:EX <Jordan.Turner@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 29, 2021 1:21 PM
To: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX <Tara.Richards@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: URGENT Heatwave - keeping people safe

Southwest supports.

JT

From: Cunnings, Ian EMBC:EX <Ian.Cunnings@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 29, 2021 1:19 PM
To: Turner, Jordan GCPE:EX <Jordan.Turner@gov.bc.ca>; Maley, Madeline L EMBC:EX <Madeline.Maley@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Brach, Pader W EMBC:EX <Pader.Brach@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: URGENT Heatwave - keeping people safe

Jordan and Madeline, here is the list of LG's and FN's that have cooling centre's supported by a task number in the SW. We do not have the hours of operation for these cooling centre's but we could contact the communities if that is required. Thru media reports we are also aware of a number of other lower mainland communities that are operating cooling centres but have not asked for a task number, such as Abbotsford and Surrey.

Pader and the SRM's were working on some messaging that we can send to LG's that outlines what is eligible under the EPA and I suspect that when the email goes out that more communities will be requesting a task number.

Ian

From: EMBC SWE PREOC Director 1 EMBC:EX s.17
Sent: June 29, 2021 1:10 PM
To: Cunnings, Ian EMBC:EX <Ian.Cunnings@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: URGENT Heatwave - keeping people safe

SW PREOC
Local Government and FN Cooling Centre Support

Local Government

District of Kent
Maple Ridge
Pitt Meadows
Port Coquitlam
Vancouver
Coquitlam
Mission
Rosedale
Pemberton
Langley
Sunshine Coast Regional District

First Nations

Katzie
Seabird
Lilwat
Leq'a:mel

Jeff Owens
Director
Southwest Regional PREOC

Emergency Management British Columbia

14292 Green Timbers Way
Surrey, B.C. CANADA V3T 0J4

Primary SWE PREOC contact

Phone 778-572-3962

Email s.17

PREOC Fax 604.586.4083

24 Hour Emergency Reporting 1.800.663.3456

This transmission may contain confidential or privileged communication. Any unauthorized distribution, copying, or disclosure is strictly prohibited. Please notify the South West Region Office/sender of any transmission received in error by immediately replying to the sender, and destroy all copies.

From: Cunnings, Ian EMBC:EX <Ian.Cunnings@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 29, 2021 1:02 PM
To: EMBC SWE PREOC Director 1 EMBC:EX s.17
Subject: Fwd: URGENT Heatwave - keeping people safe

Jeff, can I get a list of cooling centres that we are supporting as soon as possible.

Ian

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Turner, Jordan GCPE:EX" <Jordan.Turner@gov.bc.ca>
Date: June 29, 2021 at 12:44:49 PM PDT
To: "Maley, Madeline L EMBC:EX" <Madeline.Maley@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Ralfs, Brendan R EMBC:EX" <Brendan.Ralfs@gov.bc.ca>, "Brach, Pader W EMBC:EX" <Pader.Brach@gov.bc.ca>, "Cunnings, Ian EMBC:EX" <Ian.Cunnings@gov.bc.ca>, "Morrison, Andrew EMBC:EX" <Andrew.Morrison@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: URGENT Heatwave - keeping people safe

Do we know how much communities participate?

Jordan Turner
Communications Director | EMBC
Cell: [\(250\) 896-1928](tel:2508961928)

On Jun 29, 2021, at 12:24 PM, Maley, Madeline L EMBC:EX <Madeline.Maley@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

EMBC is supporting communities by reimbursement incremental costs, examples include:

- Staff wages/overtime to open a civic facility that would otherwise not be open.
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Sent: June 29, 2021 12:14 PM
To: Ralfs, Brendan R EMBC:EX <Brendan.Ralfs@gov.bc.ca>; Brach, Pader W EMBC:EX <Pader.Brach@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Cunnings, Ian EMBC:EX <Ian.Cunnings@gov.bc.ca>; Morrison, Andrew EMBC:EX

<Andrew.Morrison@gov.bc.ca>; Maley, Madeline L EMBC:EX <Madeline.Maley@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: URGENT Heatwave - keeping people safe

Hi all,

Do we have a list of supports for the heatwave? Or any "solutions", as below?

Jordan Turner

Communications Director | EMBC

Cell: (250) 896-1928

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Thomson, Krystal GCPE:EX" <Krystal.Thomson@gov.bc.ca>

Date: June 29, 2021 at 12:10:40 PM PDT

To: "Turner, Jordan GCPE:EX" <Jordan.Turner@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Heatwave - keeping people safe

Hi Jordan,

In advance of Minister Dix's presser on Step 3 today at 1:45pm, we're urgently hoping for a list of actions the province is taking to keep people safe during the heatwave (water stations, cooling centres in every community, etc.). It doesn't need to be super comprehensive list, but any "solutions" you can provide would be SO helpful. I was pointed in your direction but let me know if I should go to someone else.

With thanks,

Krystal

Krystal Thomson

Senior Public Affairs Officer, Ministry of Health

Government Communications and Public Engagement

Desk: 236-478-0445 | Cell: 250-888-0263

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From: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX
Sent: June 29, 2021 13:32
To: Maley, Madeline L EMBC:EX
Subject: RE: URGENT Heatwave - keeping people safe

Ok, talked to Jordan about some holding messaging for MMF for the briefing, if you want to talk on the teams call now

From: Maley, Madeline L EMBC:EX <Madeline.Maley@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 29, 2021 1:26 PM
To: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX <Tara.Richards@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: URGENT Heatwave - keeping people safe

yes – I asked Ian -he says some Las have not asked for a task number yet – he is checking with Burnaby and Surry

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Did you want Pader on the 1:45 pm MMF briefing

Based on below it looks like Burnaby isn't participating , did Ian have any info on that community

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Subject: RE: URGENT Heatwave - keeping people safe

SW PREOC

Local Government and FN Cooling Centre Support

Local Government

District of Kent

Maple Ridge

Pitt Meadows

Port Coquitlam

Vancouver

Coquitlam

Mission

Rosedale

Pemberton

Langley

Sunshine Coast Regional District

First Nations

Katzie

Seabird

Lilwat

Leq'a:mel

Jeff Owens

Director

Southwest Regional PREOC

Emergency Management British Columbia

14292 Green Timbers Way

Surrey, B.C. CANADA V3T 0J4

Primary SWE PREOC contact

Phone 778-572-3962

Email s.17

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Senior Public Affairs Officer, Ministry of Health
Government Communications and Public Engagement
Desk: 236-478-0445 | Cell: 250-888-0263

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From: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX
Sent: June 25, 2021 16:39
To: Douglas, Andrew PSSG:EX; Rice, Jennifer PSSG:EX; Rice.MLA, Jennifer LASS:EX
Subject: FW: INFO: Heat call - follow up notes

Hi Andrew and PS Rice

Here's some information on the coordination EMBC is doing with IHA on cooling centres

Tara

From: Maley, Madeline L EMBC:EX <Madeline.Maley@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 25, 2021 4:35 PM
To: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX <Tara.Richards@gov.bc.ca>; Peterson, Dave EMBC:EX <Dave.Peterson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: INFO: Heat call - follow up notes

Follow-up email from the call with Interior Health Region Communities

M

Madeline L. Maley, RPF
Assistant Deputy Minister Response Operations
Emergency Management BC
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From: Morrison, Andrew EMBC:EX
Sent: June 25, 2021 4:30 PM
To: EMBC CTL PREOC Operations 1 EMBC:EX s.17 EMBC SEA PREOC Operations 1 EMBC:EX s.17 EMBC NEA PREOC Operations 1 EMBC:EX s.17
Cc: Ian Cunnings, EMBC Sr. Manager <Ian.Cunnings@gov.bc.ca>; Tony Fiala, EMBC Sr. Regional Manager <Tony.Fiala@gov.bc.ca>; Wainwright, Ryan EMBC:EX <Ryan.Wainwright@gov.bc.ca>; Brach, Pader W EMBC:EX <Pader.Brach@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Heat call - follow up notes

Please send the following to the IHA call list.

Thanks
Andrew

Good Afternoon

Thank you for those that were able to attend the Heat call today with IHA, FNHA and EMBC.

As this call was short notice and for those that were not able to attend, the following is a brief summary of the points covered.

- Weather forecast calls for extended heat, with limited overnight recoveries in temperature.
- These heat conditions are unusual and early, giving little opportunity for people to adapt to hot weather.
- Concerns are for those that may be vulnerable such as those without homes, access to A/C, children and seniors.

For communities that may be looking at setting up cooling centers

- A Medical Health Officer (MHO) order is not required. There were elements of EMBC Policy 5.13 that required an MHO order but policy 5.13 is specific to the COVID Pandemic and not required for other emergencies.
- It is expected that Local Government and First Nation communities will utilize their existing owned facilities (Rec Centers, Curling rinks, offices etc.)
- Where those facilities do not exist, there are other Commercial or Non-Government Organizations that may have suitable facilities (Malls, Churches, community centers etc.) may also be able to assist.
- Occupancy limits of facilities must be respected and further guidance for COVID protections will be provided
- IHA will be sending out further guidance around cooling centers and a tool kit – which will be shared by EMBC when received.

Clarification on costs that may be considered for reimbursement by EMBC

- A task number will be required to seek reimbursement
- A State of Local Emergency (SOLE) is not required.
 - o A SOLE is only required when accessing the powers under the Emergency Program Act, such as evacuations.
- Reimbursements are limited to incremental costs, examples include:
 - o Staff wages/overtime to open a civic facility that would otherwise not be open.
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 - o Water for use/distribution within the facility.
- For communities that do not have suitable facilities, please contact EMBC to review and discussion options.

Please watch your email for updates from IHA or EMBC.

If you have any questions, related to reimbursement or task numbers please contact your EMBC regional office

- Central region s.17
- South East region s.17
- North East region
- Or after hours call the Emergency Coordination Center 1-800-663-3456 and ask to speak to the Regional Duty Manager for your area.

Helpful Links

- [Guidance for community cooling centres in the context of COVID-19](#)
- [Guidance on how to create a municipal heat plan \(BC Centre for Disease Control\)](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Group Lodging During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

- Although Group Lodging specific, this document is very recent and may support the creation of a cooling centre in regards to max capacities, etc.
- [Guidance on cleaner air spaces during wildfire smoke events \(Health Canada\)](#)

Thank you, stay safe.

Andrew Morrison | Senior Regional Manager
[Emergency Management BC](#)

1255-D Dalhousie Drive
Kamloops BC Canada V2C 5Z5
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From: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX
Sent: June 24, 2021 14:37
To: Maley, Madeline L EMBC:EX
Subject: RE: Heat Impacts - Provincial Materials

Thanks, there is also an IB going out tomorrow on heating warning safety tips

From: Maley, Madeline L EMBC:EX <Madeline.Maley@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 24, 2021 2:35 PM
To: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX <Tara.Richards@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FYI: Heat Impacts - Provincial Materials

Health guidance

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To: Brach, Pader W EMBC:EX <Pader.Brach@gov.bc.ca>
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Hi Pader,

As discussed, please see below some info on heat impacts. Please feel free to share widely within your network.

COVID-19 Documents

- Guidance for community cooling centres in the context of COVID-19
 - Note this document was created in August 2020 and has not been updated since that timeframe
- Interim Guidance for Group Lodging During the COVID-19 Pandemic
 - Although Group Lodging specific, this document is very recent and may support the creation of a cooling centre

BCCDC Heat Impacts Map

The BC Heat Impacts Prediction System (BCHIPS) interactive online mapping system (the BCHIPS Map) is intended for use by members of the public to support health protection during hot weather.

- BC Heat Impacts Prediction System (BCHIPS)
 - Map provides limited forecast ability as well as comparison to hottest year, and daily averages

Jamie

Jamie Galt, CD, MA

A/Director

Emergency Management Unit

COVID Response & Health Emergency Management

Ministry of Health

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If this is an emergency impacting the provincial health system, please contact our 24/7 Duty Officer at 250-686-6061 or hlth.dutyofficer@gov.bc.ca

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I respectfully acknowledge the unceded territories of the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEC peoples'.

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor

General

[release number]

[Date]

Emergency Management BC

Tips to stay safe and cool during extreme heat wave

VICTORIA – British Columbians are being asked to take precautions this weekend, as Environment Canada has put out a heat warning for most of the province, predicting a dangerous long heat wave beginning today and lasting until Tuesday.

Environment Canada notes that the record-breaking temperatures will provide little relief at night, with elevated overnight temperatures, increasing the risk of heat-related illnesses.

HealthLink BC has these tips for keeping cool and healthy:

- Never leave children alone in a parked car. Temperatures can rise to 52°C (125°F) within 20 minutes inside a vehicle when the outside temperature is 34° C (93°F). Leaving the car windows slightly open will not keep the inside of the vehicle at a safe temperature.
- Drink plenty of fluids. Drink extra water even before you feel thirsty and if you are active on a hot day. Ask your health care provider about how much water you should drink on hot days if you are on water pills or limiting your fluid intake.
- Keep cool. Stay indoors in air-conditioned buildings or take a cool bath or shower. At temperatures above 30°C (86°F), fans alone may not be able to prevent heat-related illness. Remember, sunscreen will protect against the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays but not from the heat.
- Plan your outdoor activity before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m., when the sun's Ultraviolet (UV) radiation is the weakest.
- Avoid tiring work or exercise in hot, humid environments. If you must work or exercise, drink 2 to 4 glasses of non-alcoholic fluids each hour. Rest breaks are important and should be taken in the shade.
- Avoid sunburn. Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with SPF 30 or higher on exposed skin and an SPF 30 lip balm and reapply often.
- Wear lightweight, light-coloured, loose-fitting clothing and a wide brimmed hat, or use an umbrella for shade.
- Regularly check older adults, children and others for signs of heat-related illness and make sure they are keeping cool and drinking plenty of fluids. Check on those who are unable to leave their homes, and people with emotional or mental health concerns whose judgment may be impaired.
- Don't forget that heat also affects your pets. Never leave your pet in a parked car, limit exercise, and be sure to provide plenty of water and shade.

Home treatment for mild heat exhaustion may include:

- Moving to a cooler environment
- Drinking plenty of cool, non-alcoholic fluids
- Resting
- Taking a cool shower or bath

If your symptoms are not mild, last longer than 1 hour, change, worsen, or cause you concern, contact a health care provider.

Elevated heat also increases the risk of wildfire, and British Columbians are being urged to do their part to prevent human-caused wildfires and help keep communities safe. To report a wildfire, unattended campfire or open burning violation, call 1 800 663-5555 toll-free or *5555 on a cellphone.

Learn More:

- Environment Canada Public Weather Alerts for B.C.:
https://weather.gc.ca/warnings/index_e.html?prov=bc
- HealthLinkBC online resources about heat-related illness:
www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthlinkbc-files/heat-related-illness
- Call HealthLinkBC at 8-1-1 to ask about heat-related illness.
- BC Wildfire Service: www.bcwildfire.ca
- Fire restrictions and bans: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/wildfirebans>
- FireSmart program: www.firesmartbc.ca
- PreparedBC: www.preparedbc.ca/wildfires

Contact:

Jordan Turner

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Emergency Management BC

250 952-5062

EMBC Freedom Of Information EMBC:EX

From: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX
Sent: June 24, 2021 11:23
To: Williams, Susan GCPE:EX
Cc: Roe, Sandra EMBC:EX; Fraser, Agnes EMBC:EX; Turner, Jordan GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: FOR DM REVIEW: Info Bulletin on heat warning safety tips

Looks good, and no comments from me

From: Williams, Susan GCPE:EX <Susan.Williams@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 24, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Richards, Tara R EMBC:EX <Tara.Richards@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Roe, Sandra EMBC:EX <Sandra.Roe@gov.bc.ca>; Fraser, Agnes EMBC:EX <Agnes.Fraser@gov.bc.ca>; Turner, Jordan GCPE:EX <Jordan.Turner@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FOR DM REVIEW: Info Bulletin on heat warning safety tips

Hi Tara...

Attached, for your review, is an Information Bulletin on tips for heat safety. Note that I've compiled all the information from existing sources online, and have provided both the sources and links.

Jordan is working with graphics on some social media components as well.

Let me know if you have questions.

Thanks
Susan

Susan Williams (*she/her/hers*)
Communications Manager | EMBC
Government Communications and Public Engagement
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