

From: [Marriott, Sarah GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Newhook, Kelly PREM:EX](#)
Subject: FW: Media request - CTV on VCH response to DTES decampment (URGENT)
Date: April 13, 2023 4:44:48 PM
Importance: High

From: Olson, Michael GCPE:EX <Michael.Olson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 10:18 AM
To: Marriott, Sarah GCPE:EX <Sarah.Marriott@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Media request - CTV on VCH response to DTES decampment (URGENT)
Importance: High

FYI – VCH’s listing of services for folks in the DTES during this time.

From: Bilmer, Blake GCPE:EX <Blake.Bilmer@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 9:51 AM
To: Wolfe, Seamus MMHA:EX <Seamus.Wolfe@gov.bc.ca>; Lee, Isabella MMHA:EX <Isabella.Lee@gov.bc.ca>; Tapp, Christine MMHA:EX <Christine.Tapp@gov.bc.ca>; Pelech, Keefer MMHA:EX <Keefer.Pelech@gov.bc.ca>; Olson, Michael GCPE:EX <Michael.Olson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: VCH: Media request - CTV on VCH response to DTES decampment (URGENT)
Importance: High

Good morning,

Please find below an MR from CTV to VCH on their response to Vancouver’s ongoing decampment action.

No concerns with the response, might be a good opportunity to share a link to VCH’s MHSU supports page at the end: <https://www.vch.ca/en/health-topics/mental-health-substance-use>

From: Lancaster, Deana [VCH] <deana.lancaster@vch.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 9:27 AM
To: Media Mailbox, Health GCPE:EX <HealthMedia@gov.bc.ca>; Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Crofts, Amy E GCPE:EX <Amy.Crofts@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope GCPE:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>; May, Stephen GCPE:EX <Stephen.May@gov.bc.ca>; Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>; Bilmer, Blake GCPE:EX <Blake.Bilmer@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: XT:Chiang, Charlene GCPE:IN <Charlene.chiang@vch.ca>; XT:Indyk, Ari GCPE:IN <ari.indyk@vch.ca>; XT:Pereira, Celso GCPE:IN <celso.pereira@vch.ca>; XT:Penney, April GCPE:IN <april.penney@vch.ca>; XT:Galligan, Rachel GCPE:IN <rachel.galligan@vch.ca>; XT:Deutsch, Jeremy GCPE:IN <jeremy.deutsch@vch.ca>; Media <Media@vch.ca>
Subject: Media request - CTV on VCH response to DTES decampment (URGENT)

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Good morning,

Penny Daflos sent a request on Sunday for details about health services in the DTES during the decampment and over the weekend. I was on call, but not able to gather specific details until this morning. We'd like to send the response to her before Minister Whiteside's media avail at noon today.

Best,

Deana

Lead: DL

Date and time: April 9, 11 am

TOPIC: VCH response to CoV decampment

Reporter: Penny Daflos, CTV

Deadline – ASAP

Status: In progress

Request – We're already hearing about medical issues from people sitting in the rain without shelter as well as massive demand at the OPS where people are going for so where dry to stay.

What is VCH doing to meet the healthcare requirements of displaced people in the DTES? Are you staffing up street nurses or changing your approach in any way to meet the needs of people impacted by the decampment?

Recommendation – VCH to provide the following statement:

- Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) places a high priority on delivering health services to residents in the Downtown Eastside, and took steps to ensure programs continued to run throughout the City of Vancouver's formal decampment operations and the long weekend.
- VCH Car87 and the Intensive Housing Outreach Team (IHOT) were on standby near the decampment operation to provide urgent health supports as referred by VPD/CoV during the decampment.
- Standby Health services were also available during formal operations and subsequently throughout the long weekend.
- Storefront overdose prevention services (OPS) saw reduced traffic on Wed April 5, closer to normal levels Thurs April 6, and were busy during the weekend. Increased demand is typical during inclement weather, we don't yet have data to know if traffic was higher than expected.
- Outreach services to people on affected blocks of Hastings were paused on April 5 and then resumed on April 6. Some clients receiving regular outreach could not be located on April 6; teams will be back out to reconnect with them this week.
- OPS site leads deployed street and alley patrols over the long weekend to enhance overdose prevention services.

Deana Lancaster

Communications Leader, Public Health

Vancouver Coastal Health

604.230.6130

deana.lancaster@vch.ca

In respect and gratitude, I recognize that I live, work and play on the traditional, unceded homelands of the Coast Salish People.

From: Sali, Meghan PREM:EX
To: Marriott, Sarah GCPE:EX
Subject: Fwd: Shelters update
Date: April 14, 2023 4:10:22 PM

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From: Salter, Shannon PREM:EX <Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:23:31 PM
To: Sali, Meghan PREM:EX <Meghan.Sali@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, Matt PREM:EX <Matt.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>; Bain, Don PREM:EX <Don.Bain@gov.bc.ca>; Prince, Jessica PREM:EX <Jessica.Prince@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, George PREM:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Della Mattia, Marie GCPE:EX <Marie.DellaMattia@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Shelters update

Very good news. Have let PDE know, and will ask Teri to keep updating through coming days.

From: Collins, Teri HOUS:EX <Teri.Collins@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:08 PM
To: Salter, Shannon PREM:EX <Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Collins, Teri HOUS:EX <Teri.Collins@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Shelters update
Importance: High

Hi,

Today there are 20* shelter spaces available for allocation to Hastings residents. (*this is because one of the temporary shelters has converted to 24/7 instead of line-up, overnight only, so no net new gain but better and more permanent solutions).

In addition, BCH has allocated and matched (from Shelters) an **additional 20 renovated SRO** units this week, with moves planned asap.

As for the **38 EWR shelter beds** slated to close April 15, BCH has mitigated as follows:

- **5** of the 38 will continue at Belkin House until end June
- **22** additional temporary shelter mats will be added at CBG (1st/commercial) through to end June
- Kingsway Hotel – BCH has negotiated **5 hotel rooms** until the end of June
- **10 bed expansion** tomorrow at Luma Housing; with a further **10-15 Pods** being installed over the weekend, operational by next week and permanent.
- **1 unit** in McLean Park building being held for Hastings Shelter.

Total closing: 33...total being added: 48-52 ...for a **net gain of 13-15 spaces**.

Teri Collins (she/her)

Deputy Minister

Ministry of Housing

Teri.Collins@gov.bc.ca

Ph: 250-952-2569/Mobile: s.17



From: [Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Massey, Christine MMHA:EX](#)
Subject: RE: April 12 DTES VCH/MHSU Update
Date: April 17, 2023 12:17:53 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Yes, they responded to this over the weekend. Approval had come from HTLH:

- Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) is aware of the open letter from some staff, and we take the concerns outlined in the letter seriously.
- Appropriate communications were shared prior to the City's decampment on April 3 to prepare staff for health services continuity planning.
- VCH has extensive wellness supports available to all staff. Our People Team also provides resources and is available to teams requiring immediate on-site supports.
- VCH is committed to providing care to those who need it, especially our most vulnerable populations during the recent City of Vancouver-led decampment.
- VCH continues to provide health care and harm reduction services to individuals in the DTES.
- VCH took steps to ensure programs in this community continued to run throughout the decampment operations. Overall, we did not see a significant disruption to health care services offered through storefront programs or to home-based services.
- VCH values our long-term partnership with the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Police Department (VPD) – joint VCH/VPD programs such as Car 87 provide critical mental health outreach services and enable us to collaboratively provide urgent health supports to clients.

From: Massey, Christine MMHA:EX <Christine.Massey@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 12:14 PM
To: Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: April 12 DTES VCH/MHSU Update

Is VCH responding to this one?

From: Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 10:27 AM
To: Massey, Christine MMHA:EX <Christine.Massey@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: April 12 DTES VCH/MHSU Update

There was another story re: nurses, community outreach who signed the letter:

Health workers decry removal of tent city in DTES

Vancouver Sun

Monday, April 17, 2023

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By Sarah Grochowski 

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From: Massey, Christine MMHA:EX <Christine.Massey@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 10:00 AM
To: Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: April 12 DTES VCH/MHSU Update

Reference to the letter below

From: Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 5:34 PM
To: Dube, Jonathan HLTH:EX <Jonathan.Dube@gov.bc.ca>; O'Donnell, Maureen HLTH:EX <Maureen.ODonnell@gov.bc.ca>; Massey, Christine MMHA:EX <Christine.Massey@gov.bc.ca>; Collins, Teri HOUS:EX <Teri.Collins@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>; Blemings, Roxanne HLTH:EX <Roxanne.Blemings@gov.bc.ca>; Murray, Heather HLTH:EX <Heather.Murray@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: April 12 DTES VCH/MHSU Update
Importance: High

DTES decampment update for April 12, 2023

- VCH VP, Public Health and Chief Medical Health officer Dr. Patty Daly reports that the Academic Public Health Physicians of Canada have initiated a public writing campaign sharing their concerns, from a public health perspective, on the DTES/Hastings decampment process.
s.22 Criticism of the City, Province and Ministries' (Housing, Health, MMHA, SDPR, PSSG) roles on the CoV and VPD led approach and response to the decampment can be anticipated.
- VCH had their last daily huddle related to decampment yesterday
- All teams and services are operating as usual
- No other concerns noted

Darryl Sturtevant
Assistant Deputy Minister
Mental Health & Substance Use
Ministry of Mental Health & Addictions and Ministry of Health

Ph: (250) 812.8691
E: Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca



From: [Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX](#)
To: [Dube, Jonathan HLTH:EX](#); [Massey, Christine MMHA:EX](#); [O'Donnell, Maureen HLTH:EX](#)
Cc: [Murray, Heather HLTH:EX](#); [Blemings, Roxanne HLTH:EX](#); [Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: Fwd: VCH Hastings update April 13, 2023
Date: April 13, 2023 7:02:53 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Attached is today's updates.

Darryl

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From: Blemings, Roxanne HLTH:EX <Roxanne.Blemings@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:34:20 PM
To: Sturtevant, Darryl MMHA:EX <Darryl.Sturtevant@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Cruse, Cassandra MMHA:EX <Cassandra.Cruse@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: VCH Hastings update April 13, 2023

Hi Darryl,

Provincial Update:

- Effective April 13, 2023, the provincial East Hasting Encampment Response-All Partners working group convened in August 2023 to plan the resolution of the encampment has been sunset. While the day-to-day operational work continues, the original need for this group focussed on enhancing and coordinating provincial support for this specific encampment resolution has run its course. The Ministry of Housing will be bringing together partners to support the work outlined in the Supporting the DTES Plan in the coming weeks.

Below is the VCH DTES decampment update for April 13, 2023.

Best, R

From: Etherington, Caitlin [VCH] <Caitlin.Etherington@vch.ca>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:30 PM
To: Blemings, Roxanne HLTH:EX <Roxanne.Blemings@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Hastings update

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Still waiting for outreach update, will send anything relevant from that tomorrow.

- All teams and services operating as usual
- No staff safety concerns related to decampment

Caitlin Etherington

Director, Supported Housing and Complex Rehab

Vancouver Community Services

Vancouver Coastal Health

On the Unceded Territory of the Coast Salish

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

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