

D'Argis, Krista PSSG:EX

From: Macpherson, Stephanie PSSG:EX
Sent: Sunday, June 27, 2021 11:18 PM
To: Anderson, Lisa R PSSG:EX
Cc: Lapsley, Amy PSSG:EX
Subject: Re: VIRCC - Unsettled

All units have now locked up. Hydro continue to work on the issue. Will update you in the morning (and hopefully not sooner).

Stephanie Macpherson

Provincial Director

Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General | BC Corrections | Adult Custody Division

Office 778•974•3013 | Cells.17

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On Jun 27, 2021, at 10:31 PM, Macpherson, Stephanie PSSG:EX <Stephanie.Macpherson@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Weird. It actually didn't even ring and went straight to VM.

Hydro is on site now and CBRE are looking at other options for providing power for the fans. I haven't had the update from Richard to see how lock up went but when I last spoke with him staff were doing a slurpie run for everyone (inmates). Looking at moving some.15 if they are suitable with extra supervision.

Counts are up to 216s.15
s.15

The centre doesn't have air conditioning, even when the power is working...

I'll update you once I hear from Richard/Sunny.

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On Jun 27, 2021, at 10:15 PM, Anderson, Lisa R PSSG:EX <Lisa.R.Anderson@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi. Thanks for the information. Not sure why my phone would have gone to VM. It doesn't show any missed calls. Hopefully things settle down and/or a fix to the situation happens.

On Jun 27, 2021, at 9:41 PM, Macpherson, Stephanie PSSG:EX <Stephanie.Macpherson@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi. Tried calling you but went to VM.

Vircc has been running on generator power due to the heat. The transmitter at the centre has now blown and needs replacing so the fans can no longer operate until this is fixed or we get another source of power. I have spoken with Sunny and he's moving things up the chain on CBREs side as we cannot wait for the transmitter to be replaced at some other time. bC Hydro are assembling their crews now.

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s.15 We're calling in extra staff, providing beverages and basically anything we need to do to keep things calm.

I'll keep you posted and call if you need.

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From: Macpherson, Stephanie PSSG:EX
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 9:05 AM
To: Anderson, Lisa R PSSG:EX
Cc: Lapsley, Amy PSSG:EX
Subject: Re: VIRCC - Unsettled

Good morning. Power was restored about 1:30 last night. A few fans not running but the technicians are checking multiple areas to see if we need to reset the overloads on the motors. The low voltage that we had because of the faulty transformer could have caused these problems. CBRE and Hydro are continuing to work this out. We are also working with CBRE to locate additional fans to borrow/purchase.

I suspect things will be challenging today just because of the heat. s.13; s.15
s.13; s.15

No other issues identified from the other parts of the province (yet).

I also wanted to say the Sunny has been excellent and without his immediate assistance in getting the response team to the centre as quickly as he did things could have turned out very different last night. It would be great if Mark could share this with Sunny's DM and/or send a note himself.

I'll continue to monitor and update as necessary.

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On Jun 28, 2021, at 7:42 AM, Anderson, Lisa R PSSG:EX <Lisa.R.Anderson@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Thanks for the update. I'll be interested to hear that Hydro has resolved this before the heat of today.

From: Macpherson, Stephanie PSSG:EX <Stephanie.Macpherson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Sunday, June 27, 2021 11:18 PM
To: Anderson, Lisa R PSSG:EX <Lisa.R.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Lapsley, Amy PSSG:EX <Amy.Lapsley@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: VIRCC - Unsettled

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D'Argis, Krista PSSG:EX

From: Chen-Mack, Betty AG:EX
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 12:53 PM
To: Hoadley, David AG:EX; Anderson, Lisa R PSSG:EX
Cc: Campbell, Tracy AG:EX
Subject: VIRCC - return air motors down

David: Head's up. FSD is working with CBRE to resolve a critical issue at VIRCC related to the heat wave. Updates will be provide as received.

Lisa: FYI (though you probably already have this latest update).

From: Nesdoly, Darcy AG:EX <Darcy.Nesdoly@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 12:48 PM
To: Chen-Mack, Betty AG:EX <Betty.ChenMack@gov.bc.ca>; Herasemluk, Jason PSSG:EX <Jason.Herasemluk@gov.bc.ca>; Friesen, David C PSSG:EX <David.Friesen@gov.bc.ca>; D'Argis, Aaron F PSSG:EX <Aaron.DArgis@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Kostov, Krassimir AG:EX <Krassimir.Kostov@gov.bc.ca>; Huang, Jince PSSG:EX <Jince.Huang@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: VIRCC - return air motors down

Hi everyone;

It appears due to the heat, the transformer at VIRCC blew last night and BC Hydro have been on site and have restored the transformer. When the transformer blew it also affected the motors of the return air intake fans in the Main building and the living units. CBRE and Houle Electric have been on site since 5 a.m. this morning, restoring each of the living units on a one by one basis. As of a few minutes ago, here is an update provided by CBRE on site;

Update from CBRE (Mike Hyde -Maintenance Team Lead at VIRCC):

- **Living Units -LA, LB, LC, LD, LE, LF, LK, LL** are 100% up and running, which means that both fans are working, air intake in and air outtake out. It should be noted the LE and LF are temporary fixes that WILL hold but will require future work down the road;
- **LG, LH, LI, LJ** and the **MAIN BUILDING** (including seg and healthcare) only 1 of the 2 fans are working, i.e. the intake is working but the outtake isn't, no ETA at this point for when the other fans will be up and running sometime today;
- The site is off of generator power now, however, the site has weeks worth of fuel if needed; and
- CBRE is unaware of any portable AC units that could be used.

The Sr. Facilities Manager at CBRE has reached out to their suppliers and to date they have been told that there are no fans or cooling units available, anywhere. They will keep us informed if they do come across a vendor that has a cooling device that may help us out. They are not holding out much hope at acquiring any further units.

Krassimir and I are keeping in close touch with CBRE, VIRCC and ACD, as the day unfolds. CBRE has made some good progress to this point and we will continue to provide you updates as we receive them.

If you have any questions or concerns, please give either Krassimir or myself a call.

Thank you,
Darcy

Darcy Nesdoly, Director

Facilities Service Division | Corporate Management Services Branch
Ministries of Attorney General and Public Safety and Solicitor General
5th Flr 910 Government Street | Victoria, BC | C: s.17



D'Argis, Krista PSSG:EX

From: Macpherson, Stephanie PSSG:EX
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 9:56 AM
To: Singleton, Richard D PSSG:EX; PSSG VIRCC Staff
Subject: RE: Great Job Done by the VIRCC team

I thought I would also weigh in on Richard's acknowledgement. Having worked at VIRCC, I can fully understand the physical challenges of the centre, particularly in the heat. The efforts of all staff over the past week, and in particular yesterday and last night, cannot be understated. Without your calm, creative and team based approach to the work you do, the situation quite likely would have turned out very different. I wanted all of you to know that the challenging and complex work you do every day is so appreciated and doesn't go unnoticed.

Thank you to each and every one of you!

Stephanie Macpherson

PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR
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OFFICE 778-974-3013 | CELL 250-580-2794

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Where ideas work



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From: Singleton, Richard D PSSG:EX <Richard.Singleton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 7:18 AM
To: PSSG VIRCC Staff <ag-vircc-staff@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Macpherson, Stephanie PSSG:EX <Stephanie.Macpherson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Great Job Done by the VIRCC team

Hi All,

I would like to recognize and thank all of the officers who managed to keep the centre running without a major incident last night despite extremely challenging circumstances.

The unprecedented extreme heat coupled with a transformer malfunction at 17:15 was the perfect storm. This meant that we only had generator power and all fans, the HVAC system, and s.15 went down. This created rising tension on some of our more vocal units, Echo, Charlie, Mike, and November. **Staff did a great job in listening, thinking outside the box and coming up with compromises that reduced the tension and got us through the lock-up period.**

I would like to recognize and thank ADW Regs s.15 Crystal for managing the episode, CSs.15 Zeeuw, CS s.15 Mead, and CSs.15 Bilawchuk for coming up with some unique comprises and lowering the tensions at the unit level and the

staff members who stayed and worked overtime on short notice or were deployed to challenging units. This includes CO s.15 Boric, CO s.15 Anderson, and SO s.15 St. Amour. Fortunately, we managed to raise the transformer issue to the deputy ministers level and had BC Hydro respond and the power turned back on by 00:56.

Again, thank you for the amazing job that you all did last night!

Sincerely,

Richard

Richard Singleton, MSW

Warden - VIRCC

4216 Wilkinson Road. Victoria, BC.

236-478-3007 | richard.singleton@gov.bc.ca

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