



# Critical COVID-19 News

Information for medical staff

**April 29 at 6:10 p.m.**

*Sent on behalf of Dr. Maureen O'Donnell & Susan Wannamaker*

*Chief medical officer and chief operating officer of PHSA's COVID-19 EOC*

During this week's all-staff town hall, president and CEO Benoit Morin [spoke about resiliency](#) and our ability to adapt to change.

We don't know what the days and weeks ahead will bring, but there is one thing we know for certain: there will be changes to the way we do things. There will be changes to how we provide care, how we interact with our patients, how we navigate our work environments and how we live our daily lives. Undoubtedly, we will need continued resiliency and agility to get us through.

Thank you for your continued efforts and dedication. We are all in this together.

Our daily bulletins contain the latest workforce information. **Please read them carefully.**

## Highlights:

### News from government:

1. **B.C. extends provincial state of emergency**
2. **Common principles determined for restarting the Canadian economy**
3. **City of Vancouver to reinstate parking enforcement**

### Other important updates:

4. **Town hall updates**
5. **Evo Car Share survey**

### **B.C. extends provincial state of emergency**

- The [B.C. government announced today](#) that the provincial state of emergency is being extended for the third time, through the end of the day on May 12, 2020, to support the extraordinary measures taken by the Province under the Emergency Program Act to keep people safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The provincial government can extend the period of a declaration for further periods of time for up to 14 days at a time.

## Common principles determined for restarting the Canadian economy

- [Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced yesterday](#) that the federal, provincial, and territorial governments have come together and agreed to a set of common principles for restarting the Canadian economy, based on shared understanding and appreciation of what science and experts are telling us.

## City of Vancouver to reinstate parking enforcement

- The City of Vancouver will soon be reinstating parking enforcement. The timeline for when enforcement will ramp up again is expected within the coming week.
- This does not impact the temporary suspension of pay parking that is currently in place at our hospital and staff sites across the province. Free parking at health authority sites, for our staff, patients and families, will remain in effect until further notice.

## Town hall updates

- Tuesday's all-staff, virtual town hall included [an address by PHSA's president and CEO Benoit Morin](#), as well as an update on HR policies and issues from Jaci Edgeworth (vice president, people services) and a story about supply chain's journey throughout COVID-19 by Linda Lupini (executive vice president, commercial services).
- We also paused at 11 a.m. for a moment of silence to recognize Canada's National Day of Mourning, a day to honour the memory of workers who have been killed or injured on the job.
- If you missed the town hall, you can:
  - [Watch the highlights reel](#)
  - [Watch the full recording](#)
  - [Read a summary of the town hall](#), along with time stamps for the Slido questions which you can pair with the full recording
- Our next **all-staff** town hall will be on Thursday, **May 7 at 11 a.m.** We'll share the dial-in details and webcast link next week. You can also keep an eye out on the [Staff Town Hall page](#) of our website.
- Our **medical staff** town halls are currently on pause. As noted previously, we are reviewing the results of our communications survey in order to make adjustments to our communications channels and town halls, including medical staff communications. More information will be forthcoming.

## Evo Car Share survey

- Evo Car Share offered PHSA up to 60 Evo vehicles to staff in the Lower Mainland who are working on-site, are without access to personal transportation, and are in the greatest need of vehicles to continue their work to support the evolving COVID-19 pandemic. The vehicles will each be assigned to one specific staff member for a period of 30 days (i.e., not shared) with opportunity for extension.
- A number of cars have now been assigned to staff working in departments that are critical in supporting our response to COVID-19, as identified by PHSA's COVID-19 EOC.
- We are pleased to now extend this opportunity to all Lower Mainland PHSA staff who are working on-site and who are without access to personal transportation.
- To be eligible for the draw for one of the remaining vehicles, please complete [this survey](#) by no later than **9 a.m. on Monday, May 4**. If you have questions, please contact [workplace.culture@phsa.ca](mailto:workplace.culture@phsa.ca).

- Note: if you already entered the survey but were not eligible under the previous criteria, you do not need to complete the survey again. You will automatically be re-entered.

### **Thank you for your continued dedication**

The service that each and every one of you offers for patients and families – and the essential support you provide to provincial systems – is critical, and is making a meaningful difference in B.C.

### **Your ongoing sources of information**

- We are sending daily updates. Watch for emails from [phsacomm@phsa.ca](mailto:phsacomm@phsa.ca).
- Send in your questions via [Slido.com](https://www.slido.com) using the event code **#PHSATownHall**. ‘Like’ questions that are similar to yours to let us know the priority topics to cover at our virtual town halls and in future communications.
- Check the [BCCDC’s website](#) as a trusted source of information.
- Visit the [staff COVID-19 section on phsa.ca](#) to access [PHSA News](#) and COVID-19 information when off the network.
- For BCEHS alerts and updates, check the [BCAS intranet](#) and in the [BCEHS Handbook](#). *[Note: you must be on the BCEHS network to access these links].*
- For site-specific questions, please check in with your manager or clinical leadership.
- For trusted information from around the world, please check the [World Health Organization website](#).