

<b>Committee Members in Attendance</b>	<p>Co-Chair <b>Malcolm Brodie</b> (Mayor, City of Richmond)  Co-Chair <b>Fan Chun</b> (Richmond Chamber of Commerce)  <b>Matt Pitcairn</b> (Richmond Chamber of Commerce)  <b>Shaena Furlong</b> (Richmond Chamber of Commerce)  <b>Cecilia Achiam</b> (City of Richmond)  <b>Kim Somerville</b> (City of Richmond)  <b>Serena Lusk</b> (City of Richmond)  <b>Katie Ferland</b> (City of Richmond)  <b>Linda Reid</b> and <b>Shelley Leonhardt</b> (MLA, Richmond South Centre)  <b>Teresa Wat</b> (MLA, Richmond North Centre)  <b>John Yap</b> (MLA, Richmond-Steveston)  <b>Jas Johal</b> (MLA, Richmond-Queensborough)  <b>Kenny Chiu</b> and <b>Jordon Wood</b> (MP, Steveston-Richmond East)  <b>Sacha Peter</b>, representing Alice Wong (MP, Richmond Centre)  <b>Dr. Meena Dawar</b> (Vancouver Coastal Health)  <b>Nancy Small</b> (Tourism Richmond)  <b>Craig Richmond</b> (Vancouver Airport Authority)  <b>Scott Robinson</b> (Richmond School District)  <b>Travena Lee</b> (Fairchild Radio)  <b>Ken Hamaguchi</b> (Richmond School District)  <b>Marlyn Graziano</b> (Kwantlen Polytechnic University)  <b>Rebecca Swaim</b> (Trinity Western University, Richmond)  <b>Alvin Chow</b> and <b>Maria Rantanen</b> (Richmond News)  <b>Lorraine Graves</b> (Richmond Sentinel)  <b>Todd Ye</b> (Fairchild TV)  <b>James Ho</b> (AM 1320 Radio)  <b>Tim Wilkinson</b> (Richmond Fire)  <b>Will Ng</b> (Richmond RCMP)</p>
<b>Members Absent or unable to login</b>	<p>KM Lui (Ming Pao)  Andrew Lai (Sing Tao)</p>
<b>Recorder</b>	<p>Shaena Furlong</p>

<b>1. Opening Remarks from Co-Chair, Mayor Malcolm Brodie</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<p><b>Mayor Malcolm Brodie</b></p> <p>This is our seventh week of the RCCTF. I think that we've helped inform a lot of people and it's been very valuable.</p> <p><i>Roll call.</i></p>
<b>2. Opening Remarks from Co-Chair, Fan Chun</b>	<b>11:04am</b>	<p><b>Fan Chun</b></p> <p>It's hard to believe we're onto our 7<sup>th</sup> week since the declaration of the state of emergency. We've had a lot of time to adapt to the new normal and to look toward recovery. We are eagerly awaiting provincial details to reopen the economy.</p>
<b>3. Update from Vancouver Coastal Health</b>	<b>11:05am</b>	<p><b>Dr. Meena Dawar</b></p> <p>Slow and steady is the name of the game. 840 cases as of last count in Vancouver Coastal Health – 20% have been hospitalized; 8% have been in ICU; unfortunately, 9% of individuals have died. 75% of deaths have been in individuals 80 and older, which points to the fact that people over 80 are at greatest risk of complications.</p>

	<p>With a lot of hard work in the community, the curve has flattened in community cases and in hospitalized cases. That is really important. We continue to see the odd outbreak in settings like workplaces, which we must watch out for as we go forward.</p> <p>While we wait for provincial and federal reopening plans, there is a lot that is within our scope control of control.</p> <p>Epidemiology in BC is very different than rest of Canada, which is fortunate (probably due to all the hard work done in BC). Modelling shows that current transmission relates to decrease in our contacts to about 30% of normal. Modelling also shows us we could ease our restrictions and perhaps double our contacts to 60% of normal, and keep COVID transmission at manageable levels. This shows there is room to remove some restrictions.</p> <p>We can't go back to live as it was before COVID until a vaccine is found but there is some space to ease restrictions.</p> <p>Principles to think about as we move forward:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Protect seniors and those at highest risk of disease, particularly in care homes</li> <li>2. Transmission is lowest in outdoor spaces, so we should consider opening up parks and playgrounds etc.</li> <li>3. Children and youth are more protected than adults in general. We need to think about opening schools and childcare cases, including piloting opening schools before the end of semester in order to show us what to expect in the fall.</li> <li>4. Opening workplaces. Many are still open now. We may have to get used to line-ups in the short-term and appointment-based operations.</li> </ol> <p>We can use these basic principles to create a new normal for Richmond residents. We need to find the courage to move forward in a thoughtful fashion.</p> <p><b>Questions:</b></p> <p><b>Lorraine Graves:</b> Could you tell me how dangerous is it to be around people who have recovered from COVID-19?</p> <p><b>Dr. Dawar:</b> Over 800 people in VCH have gotten the infection and many have recovered. Public health reviews every individual and their illness trajectory, telling them when they can come out of isolation and get back to normal. Once a person has recovered, they are not at risk of transmitting infection to anyone else.</p> <p><b>James Ho:</b> Regarding the younger generation and babies not getting normal illness, is it because of their natural immune system or because of social distancing?</p> <p><b>Dr. Dawar:</b> What we've seen is that children are still getting other viruses (they are all screened for COVID) but we aren't finding any COVID in this demographic (though a few children have contracted it). We do not know why they get it at such a low rate.</p>
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<p><b>4. Update from the City of Richmond</b></p>	<p><b>11:16am</b></p>	<p><b>Mayor Brodie</b></p> <p>You may have seen the article in the Richmond News that quoted a senior person from Vancouver Coastal Health, saying that in Richmond we have just 10% of VCH COVID cases, as opposed to Vancouver that has 60%. If those stats are accurate. It shows we are doing something right in Richmond</p> <p>We are working hard to keep as many staff as possible in meaningful jobs. In some cases, this means redeployment to different areas. There is some work going on behind the scenes to talk about start-up, including how it can be safely done.</p> <p>Translink: they made two announcements today - that they are going back to collecting fares on the bus and front door boarding for June 1<sup>st</sup>. There are some protective measures in place for operators. They are cutting three routes in Richmond: 914, 916 and 480 are being dramatically reduced.</p> <p><b>Cecilia Achaim:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generally, Richmond residents and businesses continue to be cooperative with health orders and physical distancing recommendations by the Medical Health Officer.</li> <li>• COVID related service calls have dropped this week, but, as anticipated, regular calls for service related to the warmer season has grown.</li> <li>• Incidents of minor vandalism are up</li> <li>• Warning letter given to one of the supermarkets after several verbal warnings to enforce physical distancing</li> </ul> <p><b>Kim Somerville:</b></p> <p>Staff continue to connect with all social service agencies. RCRG has added laundry service, peer counselling and a caregiver hub as part of BC211 services. RCRG is encouraging seniors to call them directly. Will circulate the new flyer in the minutes.</p> <p>As of May 1, it is Provincial Youth Week. The City and Community Association Societies took to taking activities virtually. On Monday, 200 youth participated in a virtual youth dance party. A number of other activities are taking place throughout the week. The new City Youth Instagram account has over 200 followers.</p> <p>May is childcare month. Staff are hosting virtual workshops for childcare workers, in light of not being able to host the in-person symposium in May. 4.</p> <p>Staff are in process of planning with Community Associations and Societies for seniors week the first week of June. They are looking at how they can engage seniors through phone. We are sharing various grants with social service agencies.</p> <p><b>Katie Ferland:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On Friday businesses hit another grim milestone in the pandemic, and that was the 2<sup>nd</sup> due date for commercial rent. We've heard some positive feedback about the new federal CECRA rental assistance program, where landlords</li> </ul>
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5. Update from the Chamber of Commerce	11:26am	<p><b>Matt Pitcairn</b></p> <p><u>Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance Program:</u> We are talking to more and more members who are concerned about the federal rent relief program. I have not heard a good story. This program is not technically in place yet. The federal response to date seems to be that 75% of revenue for landlords is better than 0%. We do not have expectations that this program will change. Our focus will now be at the provincial level. We plan to work with the province to improve uptake of this program. This door only opens in the landlord takes the lead. There are unanswered questions about larger landlords who hold hundreds of leases (requiring a separate contract with each tenant). Rent continue to be one of the top priorities at the chamber.</p> <p><u>Policy Win:</u> the BC Chamber movement has been working hard with the government to extend the temporary layoff deadline from 13 weeks. The feds just extended it to 16 weeks. This signals that they hope many of these temp layoff employees will be back in a few weeks.</p> <p><u>Townhall with Richmond MLAs</u> Friday at 10am we are hosting a virtual town hall with our local MLAs. Members of the RCCTF are invited to join for this special event. We will be discussing recovery plans which will hopefully be unveiled in the next few days. <a href="https://www.richmondchamber.ca/event/virtual-town-hall-with-richmonds-4-mlas/">https://www.richmondchamber.ca/event/virtual-town-hall-with-richmonds-4-mlas/</a></p> <p><u>Major Events:</u> we are Richmond's largest convener of business focused events. We are looking at various scenarios for business events, and how the chamber can remain operational.</p> <p><u>Translink:</u> We all know Translink is facing major challenges. The lack of revenue they've seen in the last few months have been crippling. We will be sharing a survey of local businesses by Translink in the Minutes. <a href="https://form.simplesurvey.com/f/s.aspx?s=8D73F951-3617-4570-90B1-773304A8476F">https://form.simplesurvey.com/f/s.aspx?s=8D73F951-3617-4570-90B1-773304A8476F</a></p>
6. Update from YVR	11:30am	<p><b>Craig Richmond</b></p> <p>YVR expects to operate as a smaller airport than previously forecasted, serving fewer passengers as the airport works through a multi-year rebuild. Last week YVR began the process of workforce reductions by offering voluntary departure packages to all Airport Authority employees. Layoffs will be forthcoming and will affect both management and bargaining unit employees. The announcement does not impact the broader workforce on Sea Island of about</p>

		<p>26,000 who work for multiple employers.</p> <p><b>Air Cargo Update:</b> Westbound air freight rates from North America across the Pacific are normalizing which is positive for the start of BC's seafood and cherry export season. YVR continues to see many carriers operating passenger aircraft as cargo only operations. In addition to Air Canada, YVR is seeing mini-freighter operations being added by carriers such as Xiamen Airlines, China Southern and Cathay Pacific.</p> <p><b>Airline Updates:</b> YVR continues to work with our government and airline partners to welcome Canadians abroad back home and assist in the repatriation of foreign nationals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· In response to passenger demand, China Southern Airlines is flying its larger A380 aircraft into YVR for the next several weeks. We are seeing these flights depart full.</li> <li>· Qatar Airways is operating several flights a week for the next several weeks to bring Canadians living in India back home.</li> </ul> <p><b>Government Screening:</b> There were no changes in airport screening since the last update. YVR encourages all arriving passengers to <a href="#">download the new ArriveCAN mobile app</a> to provide screening agencies with required health information, reduce wait times and limit contact upon arrival.</p>
<p><b>7. Update from Richmond School District 38</b></p>	<p><b>11:33am</b></p>	<p><b>Ken Hamaguchi &amp; Scott Robinson</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The BCTF and BC Public School Employers' Association have ratified their provincial collective agreement</li> <li>2. Students returning to school:       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. We are anticipating receiving direction this week from the Ministry of Education with respect to whether schools will re-open for face-to-face instruction on a broader level between now and the end of June, and if so, what that may look like.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Face to Face Opportunities for Vulnerable Students       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Our goal is to continue to increase the number of students in schools as more students are identified who would benefit from at least some face to face instruction in schools, and as the number of children of Essential Services Workers in schools increases. We currently have several hundred students attending.</li> <li>b. As Dr. Dawar indicated earlier, we do need to get more students into schools prior to September</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. May is Asian Heritage Month:       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Opportunity for Canadians to learn about achievements and contributions of Canadians of Asian heritage</li> <li>b. Given the incidents of racism against Asian Canadians being reported through the media and</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

		<p>the cultural make-up of our community, we feel it's important that we take a proactive stance on this</p> <p>c. The District will be acknowledging Asian Heritage Month and encouraging schools to engage in learning opportunities about this</p>
<b>8. Update from Tourism Richmond</b>	<b>11:35am</b>	<p><b>Nancy Small</b></p> <p>Our team is ready to pivot to continue to support those businesses when they reopen or as they change in the way business is done.</p> <p>We know that as restrictions ease – residents of Richmond and BC will be anxious to get back out and about.</p> <p>Different sectors in tourism and hospitality are creating new procedures and new guidelines – e.g. golf, restaurants, attractions, hotels, airlines,. Etc. Our hotels especially will have to adhere to new cleanliness and social distancing. Many of our hotels are actually taking the lead on these. As well we are trying to get clarity on a comment that Dr Henry made re cancellation of events, etc until the end of the year.</p> <p>We are trying to understand the uptake of Fed and Prov programs and collecting the data of who has participated.</p> <p>Stay tuned for WeAreRichmondBC.ca as we get ready for launch next week. You will remember this is a partnership between RCC, the City and Tourism Richmond. We are bringing our community together – in this continued lockdown and as we move into reopen.</p>
<b>9. Update from Richmond MLAs</b>	<b>11:38am</b>	<p><b>MLA John Yap</b></p> <p>As we've heard others mention, we are now moving from the primarily containment and public health phase of the pandemic to thinking of the next phase: reopening.</p> <p>Some other provinces have already started. Government will be coming out sometime this week with an outline of that the reopening process could look like and potential timelines. This is all dependant on the infection's curve staying at a flat level. BC has some of the best outcomes in Canada, if not the world.</p> <p>As Dr. Henry says we need to do this is a way that will keep the curve flat, especially for those of our citizens who are at higher risk. We look forward to seeing the outline of the reopening plan later this week.</p> <p>The MLAs are looking forward to the Richmond Chamber townhall this Friday, engaging with Chamber members and others.</p> <p><b>Jas Johal:</b> There was some mention that tomorrow will be the date of the reopening information. Looking at the broader issue, there will be four main points of concern as we look toward reopening:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Physical distancing</li> </ol>

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Physical barriers</li> <li>3. Crowd control</li> <li>4. PPE for safety in each workplace</li> </ol> <p><b>John Yap:</b> As we open things up, we will be going into a new normal, with concern being placed on the 4 areas that Jas mentioned. All of us are looking forward to reopening our economy but we are having to accept that to keep our community safe, it will be a new normal at least until we have a vaccine.</p> <p><b>Linda Reid:</b> Can the school district tell us if there is a plan for the School District return?</p> <p><b>Scott Robinson:</b> We are waiting for direction from the Ministry at this point. We have been doing contingency planning. A number of different scenarios are being looked at, but until we get a province-wide direction, we cannot communicate anything.</p> <p><b>Teresa Wat:</b> I am encouraged that the School District is going to engage the students for Asian Heritage Month. I think it's important to take advantage of Asian Heritage Month. I issued a statement on May 1<sup>st</sup> for Asian Heritage Month. Scott, how are you engaging students on this?</p> <p><b>Scott Robinson:</b> We will be starting with a website announcement. Then, we are asking teachers to engage in conversations with kids that are age appropriate. It will look different from school to school, classroom to classroom.</p>
<p><b>10. Update from the Richmond MPs</b></p>	<p><b>11:47am</b></p>	<p><b>MP Kenny Chiu</b></p> <p>MP Alice Wong sends her greetings.</p> <p>During the time since the task force met last week on April 27th, the following federal items of significance occurred on the COVID-19 portfolio:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The biggest question we get is when things will open, and ultimately the provinces have a large say in the matter. On April 28th, a joint statement by the Prime Minister and Premiers was issued on the topic of the shared public health approach to restarting the economy. Briefly summarized: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. COVID-19 transmission is controlled</li> <li>2. Sufficient public health capacity is in place to test, trace and isolate cases</li> <li>3. Sufficient Healthcare capacity exists</li> <li>4. Supports in place for vulnerable groups</li> <li>5. Workplace measures</li> <li>6. Avoiding risk of re-importation</li> </ol> </li> <li>· On April 29th, Bill C-15, was passed by the House of Commons, which enables the Canada Emergency Student Benefit. MP Kenny Chiu was in Ottawa and asked some sharp questions.</li> <li>· Finally, for those that have enrolled in the Canada Emergency Response Benefit a month ago, a reminder</li> </ul>

		<p>to those that enrolled when it initially opened - they will have to re-certify every four weeks that they meet the conditions.</p> <p>Locally in the Richmond Centre riding, we continue to answer inquiries from constituents. Notable COVID-19 topics include those from individuals and businesses that are affected by the shutdown and do not qualify for the various emergency programs; repatriation concerns of overseas Canadians as international flights have mostly stopped; and Quarantine Act concerns.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p><b>Lorraine Graves:</b> My question is following from last week. Feb 28<sup>th</sup> was the deadline for hiring students for the summer within the Canada Summer Jobs Program. We would love to do this for our paper. Is there anything you can do to change that deadline? Furthermore, some sectors report that 40% of workers are on personal contracts, not on salary. So, the companies can't access the 40,000 line of credit or keep these people on their crews. Is there anything that can be done as a vast number of people are slipping through the safety net?</p> <p><b>Kenny Chiu:</b> Please connect with me via email</p> <p><b>Matt Pitcairn:</b> To Lorraine's point, this is a huge issue that comes up daily. It is a huge issue for all self employed people across the country.</p>
<b>11. Update from Richmond RCMP</b>	<b>11:53am</b>	<p><b>Supt. Will Ng</b></p> <p>We continue to have increased presence and patrols in Richmond to protect local businesses, the community, and Sea Island. We have had 21 calls for assistance related to the Quarantine Act. There have been very few instances of non-compliance.</p> <p>Thankfully, we have not received any hate crime complaints in Richmond.</p> <p>We are investigating previous arsons in partnership with Richmond Fire Rescue.</p> <p>We are experiencing excessive speeds on the roads (as much as 70Km/h over the posted limit), and are encouraging the community to slow down their speeds.</p> <p>No officers are currently in self-isolation</p>
<b>12. Update from Richmond Fire Rescue</b>	<b>11:55am</b>	<p><b>Chief Tim Wilkinson</b></p> <p>Staff continue to be healthy. We have created a plan that looks at ability to resume complete business.</p> <p>This week in business resumption, we are identifying high priority inspections. We are also reintroducing tower crane inspections to allow the large construction industry to get going again.</p>

		We have been included in the emergency response to overdose within Richmond. While this is a fairly small issue in Richmond, it is extremely important.
<b>13. Questions/ Comments/ Collaboration</b>	<b>11:57pm</b>	<i>No questions or comments made.</i>
<b>14. Adjournment</b>	<b>11:57pm</b>	<b>Mayor Malcolm Brodie</b>  Thank you. We will see you at the same time, same place next week. If you made presentation, please forward your notes to Shaena Furlong, <a href="mailto:shaenaf@richmondchamber.ca">shaenaf@richmondchamber.ca</a> .

***Next call set for 11AM, Monday, May 11th, via ZOOM. Call in details to follow.***