



<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>John Yap</b> and <b>PoWah Ng</b> (MLA, Richmond-Steveston)  <b>Jas Johal</b> (MLA, Richmond-Queensborough)  <b>Trix Chan</b> representing Teresa Wat (MLA, Richmond North Centre)  <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> and <b>Dr. Dean Chittock</b> (Vancouver Coastal Health)  <b>Nancy Small</b> (Tourism Richmond)  <b>Anne Murray</b> (Vancouver Airport Authority)  <b>Ken Hamaguchi</b> (Richmond School District)  <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)          Marlyn Graziano (Kwantlen Polytechnic University)          Scott Robinson (Richmond School District)          Andrew Lai (Sing Tao)          Travena Lee (Fairchild Radio)</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>We are now into our 11th Richmond COVID-19 Community Task Force Meeting</p> <p><i>Roll call.</i></p> <p>From the City's point of view, we are getting up and running, which seems to be the general sentiment across the community.</p>
<b>2. Opening Remarks from Co-Chair, Fan Chun</b>	<b>11:02am</b>	<p><b>Fan Chun</b></p> <p>People are returning to work. So businesses have expressed the need for other private and public service providers to come back online as well (e.g childcare).</p>
<b>3. Update from Vancouver Coastal Health</b>	<b>11:06am</b>	<p><b>Dr. Meena Dawar</b></p> <p>As of yesterday, there were 2,597 cases reported in British Columbia. That is an increase of 57 cases from this time last week. 904 (or 35%) were reported within Vancouver Coastal Health.</p> <p>The number of new cases we see continues to decline. That is within</p>

		<p>the context of a significant increase in testing since mid-April. We are doing a tremendous amount of testing throughout all communities and continuing to see fewer cases.</p> <p>Richmond continues to account for approx. 10% of Vancouver Coastal Health cases. Restrictions are easing in the community which is a good thing. We are continuing to monitor with a huge amount of scrutiny to see where new cases may be happening in the community.</p> <p>Dr. Dean Chittock is the Vice-President of Medicine, and Quality &amp; Safety at Vancouver Coastal Health and a member of the senior executive team. He has been spearheading the surgery resumption at Richmond Hospital.</p> <p><b>Dr. Dean Chittock:</b></p> <p>I am happy to answer questions as they come up. I will speak to what we did the hospital, the acute care setting and the surgical plan. As a part of preparing for the cases we worried we might be seeing at the beginning of March, we ramped down surgical services. As part of that surgical ramp down, we continued to provide services for urgent and emergent needs. Typically, this is about 40% of normal activity. These were cases that couldn't wait. It also allowed us to ramp down services throughout the hospital to redeploy staff and resources for COVID patients.</p> <p>Once we decided to move forward with the recovery phase, we have to redeploy staff and beds to accommodate. At the same time, we are walking a fine line, as we know we still have cases in the community and worry about the second wave. We have to preserve some capacity in the hospital for COVID cases. We have targeted about 85% back to normal operations within the hospital. We will be reassessing and continuing to ramp up if the situation stays safe.</p> <p>The other issue people are dealing with is that we didn't have diagnostic imaging, the labs etc. Some patients might be delayed in getting their diagnosis for a serious condition that may require surgery. We now have an efficiency situation in the OR that we didn't have before, due to the flow through of patients. Efficiency is now at 50%. We are trying to address each issue as we go.</p> <p>Richmond Hospital normally performs about 150 surgeries a week. During April, we performed about 55 surgeries per week. We are now at about 75-80% of capacity that we normally have. We have opened up the recovery room. The goal is to be back to full capacity within the next 2-3 weeks.</p> <p>Wait lists on average for Richmond (pre-COVID) were one of the best in the region. Richmond's wait list time was about 20% shorter than benchmark. Richmond was in a good position going into the pandemic. Those wait lists have grown, of course.</p> <p>Catching up on delayed or cancelled cases will be done by extending hours or augmenting services following the ramp up to safe capacity.</p>
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<p><b>4. Update from the City of Richmond</b></p>	<p><b>11:25am</b></p>	<p><b>Mayor Brodie</b></p> <p>School playgrounds are now open. Beginning next week, we are</p>

accepting payment at City Hall from the public (though not cash).

**Cecilia Achiam:**

- Emergency Operation Centre operation has been extended to June 30 on a virtual format. Reporting has been reduced to twice weekly. Continue to provide COVID-19 support, monitoring flood levels and wild fire season.
- With opening of more outdoor amenities, the City is taking its role in prevention of a possible second wave of COVID-19 seriously and has redeployed additional staff to the Community Ambassador Program (CAP) last week with extended hours of coverage from 9 am to 9 pm daily. The key areas of focus were parks with playing fields and basketball courts (Minoru, Thompson, Hugh Boyd and King George Parks) as well as Steveston and Garry Point.
- Corporate Communications supported CAP by reminding residents to “do their part by staying apart” on social media this weekend. Please support this messaging.

**Serena Lusk:**

We are continuing to work with other municipalities on the timeline of our restart plan. We saw that work very well this Monday with the reintroduction of playgrounds.

On behalf of Kim Somerville:

Council approval of City Grants - providing more flexibility to community organizations to use those grants, including if they are needing to use the to recover from COVID's impacts on their organization

There are 12 individuals in the Emergency Response Centre right now. Some of those individuals how complicated cases. Working across agencies to connect them to services.

**Katie Ferland:**

Local Innovation

- Lots of innovation happening locally related to COVID, and we continue to share these stories on social media posts and in our regular e-bulletins.
- One recent example is bioLytical. This company is developing a 1-minute COVID-19 antibody test, and received over \$600k in funding from the National Research Council to support this project.

CEWS Extension Survey

- Recent data shows this program hasn't had as much uptake as anticipated and we're hearing that some businesses are struggling to re-hire employees.
- The Government of Canada is conducting a survey on this program to find out what additional adjustments may be needed to encourage more businesses to participate, as getting people back to work will be key to economic recovery. <https://financecanada.typeform.com/to/lRcmAg>
- We're encouraging Richmond businesses to take part in the

		<p>survey, and those who wish to provide in-depth feedback are invited to answer the questions by email: <a href="mailto:fin.cews-succ.fin@canada.ca">fin.cews-succ.fin@canada.ca</a>.</p>
<p>5. Update from the Chamber of Commerce</p>	<p>11:31am</p>	<p><b>Matt Pitcairn</b></p> <p>Rent continues to be a challenge for businesses. The Province announced that evictions are not possible while this CECRA program is in place, but we still hear of challenges. The 70% decline in revenue is a very high threshold.</p> <p>The minimum wage increase came into effect yesterday. While we're not opposed to a minimum wage increase (as an organization), this comes at a very bad time for many businesses. We are working with members to help them reopen safely and keep the doors open.</p> <p>Our Chamber office is working on our own reopening plan. One thing that's become very apparent are the costs to reopening. For our own very small office, costs will be about \$1,000-\$2,000. There is an international plexiglass shortage and of course, costs are through the roof. Katie is running a great database of PPE suppliers. We are talking regularly to members. We will be reopened next week, running at half capacity.</p> <p>We are actively working on getting back to business, hosting a virtual AGM, a modified golf tournament, and will be opening the portal soon for our Business Excellence Awards nominations</p> <p><b>Questions:</b></p> <p><b>Lorraine Graves:</b> With new provincial rules, have you seen any change yet in the uptake of CECRA? I've heard it's very difficult for landlords, as they have to apply on behalf of each tenant. Have the new rules created more uptake?</p> <p><b>Matt Pitcairn:</b> Our lobby efforts are directed to Ottawa. We are sharing the stories of local businesses who are struggling. Eviction suspension might buy these businesses a little more time but isn't providing much relief for businesses to get back on their feet.</p>
<p>6. Update from YVR</p>	<p>11:30am</p>	<p><b>Anne Murray</b></p> <p>YVR is pleased to announce that <a href="#">Larry Berg Flight Path Park</a> is again open to the public. We look forward to welcoming ask that visitors respect physical distancing while plane spotting, picnicking and playing in the park.</p> <p><b>Air Services and Cargo Update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are seeing significant capacity increases for June across the Domestic, Transborder and International sectors. This is led by Air Canada but also WestJet and a number of other airline partners, including our regional airlines such as Air North, Pacific Coastal and Harbour Air.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· In terms of cargo, Chinese carriers like Xiamen Airlines, China Eastern and China Southern Airlines continue to bring in daily to multiple daily passenger aircraft operating as freighters with goods such as PPE.</li> <li>· As passenger services begin to be reintroduced starting this month, the occurrence of passenger aircraft working solely for the purposes of cargo will start to adjust.</li> </ul> <p>Transport Canada announced that cruise ships with overnight accommodations carrying more than 100 persons will be prohibited from operating in Canadian waters until October 31, 2020. While cruise ship travel is an important part of our business, we always plan for a number of scenarios and this was taken into consideration with our most recent passenger forecast.</p> <p><b>Essential Travellers and Airport Workers Only:</b> YVR is pleased that travellers and employees have been following our guidance that essential travellers and workers enter the terminal building. In addition, Transport Canada requires all passengers to have a non-medical mask or face covering to cover their mouth and nose during travel. Employees cover their mouth and nose with a mask/face covering at airport screening points.</p> <p><b>Mark Your Calendars:</b> YVR will hold its Annual Public Meeting (APM) virtually this year. The APM is scheduled to happen on Monday, June 29 at 3 p.m. We invite you all to join us!</p> <p><b>Questions:</b></p> <p><b>James Ho:</b> There's a restriction travelling if we drive to the US but is there a restriction to fly?</p> <p><b>Anne Murray:</b> The Government of Canada continues to maintain the essential travel restriction across the Canada/US border. This is in place till the 21st of June and it remains to be seen what will be in place after that.</p>
<p><b>7. Update from Richmond School District 38</b></p>	<p><b>11:39am</b></p>	<p><b>Ken Hamaguchi</b></p> <p>Last week we had about 700 students in school across the district. Based on the survey of students that went out last week, we expect 4,000 elementary and 2,700 secondary school students to return this week.</p> <p>The first group of students started yesterday. A group of students of essential service workers or students with special needs have the option of attending every day.</p> <p>Fewer students than we were anticipating came to school yesterday, but we will monitor throughout the week.</p> <p>Students not attending school will continue to receive remote instruction at home for the next few weeks.</p>

		<p><b>Mayor Brodie:</b> This is an interesting case study of how the rest of the year and the fall will go.</p>
<p><b>8. Update from Tourism Richmond</b></p>	<p><b>11:42am</b></p>	<p><b>Nancy Small</b></p> <p>Here in Richmond, we have been rallying our city for several weeks now – promoting businesses that were open – especially with the launch of the We Are Richmond BC website.</p> <p>Many business and restaurants are reopening; and planning to reopen.</p> <p>The industry is projecting a slow return to business through the summer – and into the fall and winter of 2021. First customers back are expected to be hyper local/local customers, then regional, then national and finally (when border reopen) US and International travel.</p> <p>In the short term, as we move into what will be a quiet summer, and potentially higher activity fall, Tourism Richmond is taking a creative and collaborative approach – with programs and campaigns that are measurable, partnership based, with the ability to pause or stop, depending on the evolving health conditions of the day.</p> <p>I will share more specifics in the coming weeks as dates and tactics get finalized.</p>
<p><b>9. Update from Richmond MLAs</b></p>	<p><b>11:43am</b></p>	<p><b>MLA Jas Johal</b></p> <p>The Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services has now formally opened its Budget 2021 consultation.</p> <p>British Columbians can share their priorities and recommendations for the next provincial budget by making a written, audio or video submission or by completing the online survey by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 26 on the Committee's website: <a href="https://bcleg.ca/FGSbudget">https://bcleg.ca/FGSbudget</a>. Copies of promotional materials, including translated versions, continue to be available on the Committee's website at <a href="https://bcleg.ca/FGSbudget">https://bcleg.ca/FGSbudget</a>. Additional information on the work of the Committee is available on the Committee's website: <a href="http://www.leg.bc.ca/cmt/finance">www.leg.bc.ca/cmt/finance</a>&lt;<a href="http://www.leg.bc.ca/cmt/finance">http://www.leg.bc.ca/cmt/finance</a>&gt;.</p> <p>Constituency offices are mostly hearing from businesses with questions about how and when they can reopen. Greater clarity from WorkSafeBC is something we are dealing with on a regular basis.</p> <p>In the next sitting of the legislature (beginning June 22nd), Mondays to Wednesdays will be regular government sitting (QP, debates, and committee meetings). Thursdays and Fridays will be estimates - a line by line dissection of each respective Ministry and where the spending priorities will be.</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>Since we spoke last week my office has continued to assist the local community with their concerns regarding aid and assistance programs. These requests have been declining but there are still those with exceptional circumstances that require care. We have also received several requests for letters of support to assist individuals with border crossing issues.</p> <p>As for what work is being done in Ottawa, the government recently announced that it will accelerate infrastructure funding for municipalities facing financial struggles in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The federal government is making the full 2020/2021 Gas Tax Fund available to municipalities in the coming weeks, instead of in two installments later in the year.</p> <p>The Parliamentary Budget Officer has released costing details for the Temporary Changes to the Canada Student Loans program and Measures to Assist Seniors. These programs see student loans increased to \$350 a week with the maximum grant allowance doubled and for seniors to receive up to \$500 in a one time payment bonus if they qualify for Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement.</p>
<p><b>11. Update from Richmond RCMP</b></p>	<p><b>11:50am</b></p>	<p><b>Supt. Will Ng</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Commercial and residential B&amp;E rate continues to be low.</li> <li>· One new hate crime is currently under investigation and charges to come.</li> <li>· School Liaison Officers back to work with schools reopening. D.A.R.E. program is provided virtually on-line and well received by youth</li> <li>· No staff off on COVID-19.</li> </ul>
<p><b>12. Update from Richmond Fire Rescue</b></p>	<p><b>11:51am</b></p>	<p><b>Chief Tim Wilkinson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Staff remain healthy.</li> <li>· RFR is supporting the City reopening plan.</li> <li>· Building, Business and Tower crane inspections are fully implemented.</li> <li>· Training and preparations continues in earnest looking forward to the summer season.</li> <li>· The deliberately set fires have stopped. No arrest to date.</li> <li>· Emergency response teams are able to respond with no impediments. PPE is at good levels.</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions:</b></p> <p><b>Lorraine Graves:</b> The video you just released on the cigarettes causing fires was excellent. You said the fires that were being deliberately set have stopped. Was someone found and compelled to stop or was this just the publicity?</p> <p>Supt. Will Ng: I believe this is due to the media coverage. We have also done a lot of work to increase visibility in those areas. We have</p>

		not identified the suspect at this time. It is an active investigation.
<b>13. Questions/ Comments/ Collaboration</b>	<b>11:54am</b>	<p><b>Mayor Brodie:</b></p> <p>Mayor Brodie: We talked a couple of weeks ago about going to every two weeks with these meetings. While I believe we have enough content to remain weekly for now, I am open to suggestions on this.</p> <p>Matt Pitcairn: I think as we get closer to the summer, we may need to pivot to every two weeks. Maybe in 2-3 weeks' time, we amend our schedule.</p> <p>Mayor Brodie: From the City's point of view, we have five step plan and have just begun stage 2. Many of our organizations have a huge amount of work right now to share.</p> <p><i>General agreement to keep weekly meetings for now.</i></p>
<b>14. Adjournment</b>	<b>11:56 am</b>	<b>Mayor Malcolm Brodie</b>

***Next call set for 11AM, Tuesday, June 9th via ZOOM. Call in details to follow.***