

DATE: May 22, 2020**FILE:** 7130-30**TO:** Chair and Directors
Regional District Board**FROM:** Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative OfficerSupported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer**J. Warren for:****RE: CVRD Safety Re-opening Plan****Purpose**

To introduce to the Board a policy statement that enables Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) facility re-openings that supports the safety, health, and wellbeing of both the general public and CVRD employees and is aligned with provincial authorities including WorkSafe BC, BC Centre for Disease Control, and the Ministry of Health for BC.

Recommendations from the Chief Administrative Officer:

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the CVRD's ability to effectively deliver programs and services and has resulted in the closure of many CVRD facilities; AND WHEREAS the CVRD is committed to the safety, health, and wellbeing of its employees and the general public;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Comox Valley Regional District facilities, which were closed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, be re-opened in alignment with recommendations, advice, and guidelines issued by WorkSafe BC, the BC Centre for Disease Control, and the Ministry of Health for BC;

AND FURTHER THAT any re-openings be informed by safety plans, safe work procedures, signage, and internal and external communication to promote public safety and responsible operations;

AND FINALLY THAT the CVRD remain responsive to changing conditions associated with COVID-19 such that future facility closures occur where required.

Executive Summary

The BC Restart Plan is enabling businesses, organizations and public spaces to re-open. BC Ministry of Health is working in partnership with WorkSafe BC to develop and issue industry standards for re-opening in a responsible manner that provides for safe and healthy operating practices. For local government, the industry standards to follow include public office buildings, recreation, construction, hospitality and other sectors.

The CVRD closed many of its facilities to the public at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, including the recreation complexes, administration offices, fire departments and certain outdoor recreation/community locations. As the CVRD considers re-opening its facilities, it is developing site specific safety plans that align with WorkSafeBC sector standards and considers advice and guidance from Island Health, the Ministry of Health for BC, and the BC Centre for Disease Control. A CVRD Board approved policy statement, as noted in the recommendation above, would provide the direction and support to develop and implement such safety plans and re-opening procedures. By doing so, the policy statement will also help ensure consistency with all facility re-openings by establishing a high level course of conduct for staff to follow. Any CVRD facility that re-opens

would only be done so when procedures are in place to provide for a safe and healthy space for the public and employees including installing signage and the posting of re-opening plans as required. Subsequent reports may be presented to future committee, commission and Board meetings to provide additional detail, timing or direction on certain locations, such as the Comox Valley Sports and Aquatic Centres which will be considered at the Comox Valley Sports Commission in June or July. The CVRD maintains a webpage that details facility closures and re-openings

The policy statement also acknowledges that the CVRD will maintain its awareness of community conditions relating to COVID-19, such that future closures will be considered where warranted or directed.

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