

## COVID-19 Community Update for Parksville-Qualicum Beach

As announced yesterday, by order and direction of the Provincial Health Officer, all individuals, places of work and businesses in BC must significantly reduce their level of social interactions and travel. These new measures are intended to address the province's second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and to keep our schools and businesses open. The order is in effect until midnight, December 7, 2020.



The City of Parksville and Town of Qualicum Beach follow the direction of the Provincial Health Officer and Island Health and align operations with the phases of the [BC's Restart Plan](#). We have provided a summary of the new regulations for our residents below and a link to the updated province-wide restrictions is provided [here](#).

### No social gatherings

No social gatherings, inside or outside, of any size with anyone other than your immediate household or core bubble. This means no gatherings outdoors including your backyard, no playdates for children and most importantly do not invite friends or extended family to your household. Immediate household is defined as those people living in the same household.

For those living alone, they can continue to see the same one or two people of their core bubble such as a partner, relative, friend or co-parent.

Activities which are not considered a social gathering are going for a walk, parents carpooling kids to and from school and grandparents providing childcare. Please refer to the BC province-wide restriction available here for allowable services, religious and cultural gatherings, workplaces, restaurants and bars and indoor activities such as gyms and recreation facilities.

### Mandatory mask requirements

Masks are now mandatory for everyone in all public indoor settings and workplaces. Examples provided are retail stores, recreation centres, libraries, common areas in hotels and in restaurants/bars when not seated at a table and at municipal halls.

### Essential travel only

At this time, all non-essential travel should be avoided. This includes travel into and out of British Columbia and between regions of the province. Essential travel is considered regular travel for work within your region and for things such as medical appointments and hospital visits.

### General information

Concerns or questions about COVID-19 such as symptoms or exposure should be addressed directly to Island Health (not your local government). **Island Health** is positioned to answer any questions regarding outbreaks and public exposures and is doing the necessary trace contacting and identifying those who should self-isolate. Please refer to the Island Health [website](#) for more information.

The **Town of Qualicum Beach** municipal office is partially opened to the public from 9 am to 1 pm, Monday to Friday (closed on all statutory holidays). Residents are strongly encouraged to not attend at the municipal office unless absolutely necessary. If assistance is required or an appointment with a specific department, please call 250 752-6921 or email [gbtown@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:gbtown@qualicumbeach.com).

For payments, please take advantage of other payment options available including:

- Use of the drop box at the entrance of Town Hall
- Use of online/telephone banking
- Post directly to PO Box 130, Qualicum Beach, BC V9K 1S7

The **City of Parksville** finance department is open from 9 am to noon and 1 pm to 3 pm to accept property tax payments, utility payments, tickets/licence fee payments and to process homeowner grants as well as the purchase of bus passes, dog licences and building permits. All other City business is by appointment only and walk-in services are not available. Call 250 248-6144 to book an appointment or refer to [contact info](#) on the City's website. Masks are mandatory when entering the building and visitors will be asked to provide contact information for the purposes of contact tracing.

We appreciate the support of our residents as we adjust our operations to working with these new regulations. The safety of our residents and staff continues to be our priority. The choices we all make over the next few weeks will make a difference and will support our businesses and schools to stay open. Thank you for continuing to do your part in keeping us safe and helping to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

**For more information:**

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