

NEWS RELEASE

March 24, 2020

Get Involved RDN!

Highlights from Today's Board Meeting

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) is actively monitoring information provided by federal and provincial agencies regarding COVID-19 and will continue to follow the directives of the health officials as the situation evolves. Today's Special Board Meeting was held virtually at 10:00 a.m. Directors attended electronically and the public was able to listen online. Here are some highlights from the meeting; the full audio will be posted to <u>rdn.bc.ca/agendas-minutes-videos</u> in the coming days.

Transit

Beginning Wednesday, March 25, 2020, RDN Transit will implement its summer level of service. This means reduced service on routes to schools and post-secondary institutions that are closed due to COVID-19. This change will discontinue several trips on the following routes. The trips with an 'S' note beside them will be removed from service.

- 1 Country Club/Downtown (labelled 'S' in the rider's guide)
- 5 Fairview (labelled 'S' in the rider's guide)
- 15 VIU/Woodgrove (labelled 'S' in the rider's guide)
- 20 Hammond Bay to Woodgrove (labelled 'S' in the rider's guide)
- 30 NRGH (labelled 'S' in the rider's guide)
- 40 VIU Express (labelled 'S' 'A', and 'B' in the rider's guide)
- 92 Hammond Bay (labelled 'A', 'B' and 'C' in the rider's guide)
- 11 Lantzville will not divert to Dover Bay Secondary

Check <u>RDNNextRide.ca</u>, <u>rdn.bc.ca/regional-transit</u> or phone us at 250-390-4531 if you have any questions.

We continue to work hard to provide transportation services you can rely on to get to work, health care facilities, grocery stores and pharmacies. Buses are cleaned and sanitized daily and the number of passengers is monitored to ensure physical distancing.

For the health and safety of our RDN Transit operators and customers, you are asked to board and exit using the back doors only. Customers with accessibility needs may still use the front doors. Please do not approach the operator. Customers who normally pay with cash or tickets will not be required to pay.

Board Motion regarding St. Anne's Shelter

The Board directed staff to communicate and work with BC Housing, Oceanside Heart, and the municipal Chief Administrative Officers of Oceanside to replace St. Anne's shelter which has had to close due to COVID-19.



COVID-19

Together, we can slow the spread of COVID-19 by making a conscious effort to keep a physical distance between each other. Social distancing is proven to be one of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of illness during an outbreak. This means avoiding crowded places and non-essential gatherings; limiting contact with people at higher risk (e.g. older adults and those in poor health); and keeping a distance of at least two arms lengths (approximately two metres) from others.

For the most up-to-date information and resources related to COVID-19, visit <u>Public Health Agency of</u> <u>Canada, BC Centre for Disease Control and Island Health.</u>

For non-medical information and advice, call 1-888-COVID19 (1-888-268-4319). If experiencing symptoms or needing medical information call 8-1-1 or visit the online <u>self-assessment tool</u>.

For RDN information related to COVID-19. Please visit <u>rdn.bc.ca</u> and follow the RDN on Facebook and Twitter.

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