

Emergency Response: Temporary Sheltering in Royal Athletic Park Parking Lot

Due to the recent heavy rain and snow, many areas of Central Park have flooded. The ongoing pandemic has reduced access to indoor shelters and supports for people experiencing homelessness, and currently there are no indoor shelter spaces. Sheltering in the Royal Athletic Park Parking Lot is a temporary solution. As part of this emergency response, BC Housing and the City are providing new tents and fresh bedding.

BC Housing and the GSL Group have recently begun discussions on reusing the Save-on-Foods Memorial Centre as a temporary shelter, but no firm decisions have been made at this time.

Bylaw officers will continue to work closely with those sheltering and to remind them of some basic rules and connecting them to services available in the community.

There are no easy solutions to the challenges we're facing, and we will continue to collaborate and press the provincial and federal governments, as well as community agencies, for housing solutions.

CITY CONTACTS

If you have questions or concerns, please email engage@victoria.ca

Bylaw Services

Contact to report a bylaw violation or inquire about impounded items:

Online form:

<https://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/city/bylaw-enforcement/report-a-bylaw-violation.html>

Email bylawservices@victoria.ca

(7 days a week, 7 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

Phone 250.361.0215

(Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

Victoria Police

Contact about crime and community safety:

Phone 250.995.7654 for non-emergencies, and 9-1-1 for emergencies or crimes in progress

Parks Division

Contact if you see garbage in a park that needs to be cleaned up, if you find a needle, or damage to park facilities:

Phone 250.361.0600 (24 hrs)

Email parks@victoria.ca