



The Coalition to End Homelessness will do our best to keep our community posted of any social service agency closures/hour changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic that may impact those experiencing (or at risk of experiencing) homelessness. This list will be updated as information comes in.

Last updated: March 25th, 2020 – 2:15pm

Public Washrooms – City of Courtenay

Washrooms below Sid Williams theatre and in Simms Park are now open daily from 7am-7pm so our street community has access to washing their hands, using the toilet and refilling water bottles.

Salvation Army Pidcock Shelter

Shelter open 24/7. 18 regular beds and 20 Emergency Response (EWR) mats. EWR will continue until June 30th.

Connect Warming Centre

Open! Monday-Saturday (closed Sunday) from 9:30am-4:30pm (closing during St. George's lunch from (11:30am-12:30pm). STRICT health measure in place incl. Only 4 people will be admitted to the space at a time, for a maximum of 30 minutes;

- Social distancing will be a requirement;
- Doors will remain locked: staff will let people in & out;
- Everyone will be screened for symptoms of illness at the door;
- Anyone displaying symptoms will not be permitted into the space and will be asked to call 8-1-1 for further assistance;
- All those admitted will be required to immediately & thoroughly wash their hands with soap & water;
- Limited refreshments & toiletries will be provided;
- CVTS staff will hand out or refill water bottles;

Sonshine Lunch Club at St. George's United Church

Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fri: Bag lunch "to go" served on the front lawn 11:30-12:30pm at St. George's [St. George's United Church](#)

Tues: bag lunch "to go" served by the Salvation Army at their Cornerstone Family Services location at the corner of 29th Street and Cliffe Avenue (468 29th St, Courtenay)

Sun: The "Food Not Bombs" community meal will provide sandwiches from 2-3:30pm

Comox Valley Food Bank

CLOSED until further notice.

Care-a-van

Still operating regular schedule with health measures in place. In need of donations of non-perishable grab n' go foods, canned soups, crackers, Boost, yogurts etc

DONATION INFO: Drop-off at Sunwest RV 2800 Cliffe Ave ONLY for closed boxes or bags with tied handles of non-perishable food. Clean, warm clothes and sleeping bags must be bagged in garbage bags.

If there's anything else you'd like to donate, or are donating large quantities, please call Sabina at 250-331-1413

AVI Health & Community Services

Drop-in services are closed,

Harm reduction and overdose prevention services (including witnessed injection) can be accessed via back door entry to our building. Only two people will be permitted into the building at a time to ensure effective social distancing.

Outreach harm reduction supply distribution and nutritional support can be provided to AVI clients as staffing levels permit. Please contact the AVI outreach phone at (250) 207-5351 to inquire. All education and group sessions have been postponed until further notice.

BC Transit

The CVRD has approved NO FARE transit for the next 30 days. This applies to HandyDart and conventional service. Rear door entry is also allowed to reduce contact

Salvation Army Family Services

Community & Family Services continues to operate. Tuesday lunch is being served from their 29th St location with proper safety protocol.

LUSH Valley Food Action Society

LUSH Valley's physical office is closed. Team is working remotely and working hard to establish a COVID Emergency Food Share Program. The phone is being answered when we are available and we are not adhering to our usual office hours. A new Emergency Food Share Helpline will be released asap.

In light of the sudden closure of the Foodbank, we are seeking an alternate space to conduct a similar hamper, as well as a grocery store gift card, program.

In the coming days, will open the emergency helpline and an online portal where individuals can fill out a form to request food assistance, farmers and businesses can donate food, and people can organize neighbourhood food drives. For the food drives, we will have vehicles and drivers come to pick up the donations, to limit the numbers of people on the road and delivering the food to our new warehousing space. Our call for volunteer drivers resulted in many applicants. It is likely that we will use only a select few, to minimize overall exposure and the numbers of people/vehicles on the road

Wachiay Friendship Centre is CLOSED until further notice

Staff are working remotely and can be reached by email/ voicemail

Eureka Support Society

Eureka Support Society is closed until June 1, 2020.

Eureka members may call 250-334-4035 and Lynda or Chris will get back to you the next business day

Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL)

Vancouver Island Regional Library is closed

Comox Valley Transition Society

Downtown office will remain closed for 2 weeks and all drop-in groups are temporarily cancelled until further notice.

Reviewing additional, precautionary measures for **Lilli House**

Amethyst House

Not taking any new clients at this time. We will continue to accept referrals which we will respond to at a time when we are able to take in residents once again.

Too Good To Be Threw is closed until further notice.

Unbroken Chain

All groups and gatherings temporarily cancelled, but still available over phone/FB.

Unbroken Chain is doing outreach and delivering care packages the next few weeks to vulnerable elders, and elders who are homeless. If you know of anyone who could benefit, please contact us at 778-585-3105 or through our facebook page.

Lifelong Learning Centre

Closed and programs cancelled until further notice

Comox Valley Senior Support Society

Home visits have been cancelled and have moved to phone check-ins and Skype or Facetime visits.

No intakes will be done but each new referral made will be called and put on our list of those we call to check in on them.

Have volunteers willing to do extra, ie make those calls to new referrals and do grocery/prescription pickup and delivery

We begin a radio campaign with The Eagle next week. We will be reaching out to CV seniors as well as the public encouraging seniors to call if they need support, encouraging people to sign up to support a senior, encouraging people to keep an eye on seniors who are living in their neighbourhood.

Comox Valley Head Injury Society

Staff are working remotely and we are providing email and phone support at this time. FMI or general inquires for a call/email back phone 250-334-9225 or email us at info.cvhis@gmail.com

L'arche Comox Valley

I Belong Centre has closed its doors to the public as the population they serve - and the many volunteers who serve them on our behalf - are considered vulnerable.

Comox Valley Family Services

Staff are all working from home but continue to support client needs.

Mental Health & Substance Use

Drop-in groups such as the early recovery program mental health and substance are now cancelled.

Appointments at MHSU are now phone call based.

Work BC

Continuing to assist job seekers and employers by phone and through internet technology, though our physical doors are closed to in-person service.

Job Seekers: Here to support our current and new job seekers during this challenging and uncertain time. If you or someone you know would like to connect with an Employment Counsellor at Work BC – Courtenay, please have them call our front desk at 250-334-3119.

Employers: Covid-19 has changed the way businesses operate and closed or suspended operations for many. However, we know that employers are and will be, looking for ways to support themselves, their employees and their business. We are here to help, whether it be information on

wage subsidy, useful links, hiring or planning for future events. We welcome your phone calls: 250-334-3119. Ask for Andrea, Employer Services Coordinator or Brooke our Labour Market Specialist.

Black Creek Bread of Life Foodbank

Still open Tuesdays 9:30-11:30am at the Black Creek Mennonite Church. In need of food donations.

Sasamans Society

Still providing phone support to our families. Staff are currently working from home.

In the meantime we also recommend following resources:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19>

<https://bcnpha.ca/.../covid-19-coronavirus-new-resources-for.../>

<https://www.canada.ca/.../vulnerabl.../vulnerable-groups-eng.pdf>

<https://www.bchousing.org/covid-19>

<http://cnh3.ca/resources/>

Please email any updates to us at comoxvalleyhousing@gmail.com