



qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT



Regional Emergency Operations Centre

MEDIA RELEASE

July 31, 2020

Regional EOC reminds visitors and locals to enjoy the BC Day long weekend safely

Powell River, B.C. – To help keep our community safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Regional Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) strongly urges residents and visitors to follow all orders, guidelines and prohibitions, including fire bans, while enjoying the BC Day long weekend.

The qathet Regional EOC has received calls of concern regarding residents and visitors not adhering to provincial health orders. Particularly troubling is an annual, large party on Savary Island's south beach. The EOC is working in conjunction with health authorities, RCMP and provincial enforcement officers to follow up on these concerns.

On Thursday, July 30, Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry stated "It is easy to socialize safely and that's what we all need to do this B.C. Day weekend. To do this, let's keep our groups small and keep a safe distance from others, no matter where we may be. What you do today and this weekend will determine what we are able to do in the weeks ahead – so let's all do the right thing."

The [Gatherings and Events Order](#), issued on July 27, 2020, limits those attending a social event or gathering held in vacation accommodation to five persons. As per the Order, gatherings and events must not exceed 50 patrons and specific conditions must be maintained in order to attend or host a gathering.

People are reminded that campfires and outdoor fires of any kind are currently prohibited on Savary Island and the City of Powell River, with the exception of permissible campfires in designated campsites at Willingdon Beach.

Those exposed to or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 are not to visit, meet friends and family or travel. Should you develop symptoms during your stay in our region, please quarantine, self-isolate, and notify local authorities immediately.

No one is immune to COVID-19. Our communities' continued safety and resiliency is dependent on all our residents, especially young people, to lead by example and not put others at risk. Irresponsible actions could result in fatal consequences.

The EOC continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation. For up-to-date COVID-19 information, please visit qathet.ca.

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