



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 update: Group fitness classes temporarily paused for Greater Vernon Recreation Services

On November 19, 2020, B.C.'s Provincial Health Officer (PHO) instituted a [new health order](#) that stops or restricts specific activities, to help slow and contain the spread of COVID-19 across the province.

Included in the order is a direction that “Businesses, recreation centres or other organizations that organize or operate high risk indoor group physical activities (such as spin classes, hot yoga and HIIT) must suspend them.” As well, “venues that organize or operate other types of indoor group physical activities must suspend them temporarily while new guidance is being developed.”

In accordance with the PHO's order, Greater Vernon Recreation Services has temporarily paused fitness classes and some activity programming. Impacted recreation user groups are being contacted directly, to be notified of the change. Once the new guidelines have been received, Recreation Services will review its program opportunities and make the necessary changes to its Risk Mitigation Plans and procedures.

“While we regret having to pause some of our programs, we must ensure all programs and services provided are compliant with Provincial health guidelines and orders, as we all do our part to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 and help flatten the curve again,” said Shayne Wright, Manager, Recreation Programs.

Recreation Services hopes to be able to re-start most fitness programs with updated protocols next week, pending the receipt of the new guidelines. Please check the Greater Vernon Recreation website at www.gvrec.ca for updated program details.

As we look forward to a safe and healthy holiday season, Recreation Services is also reminding all program and drop-in activity participants that masks are required in all recreation facilities.