



## Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON  
3400 – 30 Street  
Vernon, BC  
V1T 5E6

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT: Christy Poirier, Manager, Communications & Grants

TELEPHONE: 250-550-3539

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### **COVID-19 update: Public attendance allowed to resume at Council meetings**

On June 22, 2021, B.C.'s Provincial Health Officer (PHO) amended a Health Order regarding [gatherings and events](#). The amended Order now allows members of the public (including the media) to attend City Council meetings and public hearings, within a defined set of parameters. The amended Order requires:

- a maximum number of people who may be gathered at one time, generally determined by physical distancing;
- attendees to observe appropriate physical distancing, wear masks, and be seated/remain seated;
- attendees to provide their name and contact information for contact tracing; and
- hand sanitation supplies and washroom facilities to be provided.

Based on the requirement to physically distance attendees, the maximum number of people who may be in the Vernon Council Chambers at one time is 23. This includes members of Council, Administration, staff, and public.

If members of the public would like to attend a Regular Council meeting, the limited number of seats available will be first come, first served.

The Annual General Meeting scheduled to take place at 5:00 p.m. on June 28 will be held in Council Chambers, as advertised. Members of the public who requested to attend the meeting via ZOOM will still be able to participate virtually. Additionally, individuals may attend the AGM in person, if seats are available.

Until further notice, public hearings will now take place at the Dogwood Gymnasium at the Vernon Recreation Centre. A maximum of 50 people may be gathered in the room at one time, under the same conditions listed above.

For those who cannot attend a scheduled meeting, the City of Vernon video records all Council meetings and public hearings and makes them available on the [City's website](#). Afternoon sessions are live-streamed and Committee of the Whole meetings are available by Noon the day following the meeting.

For more information on Council meetings, the public hearing process, and the City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit [www.vernon.ca](http://www.vernon.ca).