



## Media Release

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 27, 2022

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### **Kal Tire Place to be opened as community cooling centre during heat wave**

As of 1:00 p.m. today (July 27), Kal Tire Place will be open as a drop-in community cooling centre. Members of the public are welcome to visit the arena and walk the concourse or rest in the seating area to find temporary relief from the heat and access to water.

Individuals who may be most impacted by this heat event include seniors, children, those with underlying medical conditions, and those who do not have access to alternative air conditioned shelter. The City encourages those who need access to the cooling centre to use the facility.

#### **Location and hours of operation:**

- Kal Tire Place is located at 3445 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.
- Open 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. daily, until Monday, August 1.
- Access to the facility will be the main entrance on the east side of the building.
- The City will continue monitoring the weather forecast and will provide updates on the cooling centre as they become available.

#### **What should I bring to the cooling centre?**

A limited supply of bottled water will be available for the public. However, we encourage everyone to bring a water bottle that can be filled at a water refill station on the concourse.

Parents with children are encouraged to bring books, small games, activities, or snacks for their kids.

#### **Is the cooling centre pet friendly?**

Yes. Animals may be brought to the cooling centre to find relief from the heat. Please note that pet owners must stay with their animals, and the animals must be in a kennel (which will be located in a designated area of Kal Tire Place).

Pet owners are asked to bring a leash, water bowl, food, and treats for their pet, as necessary. The City is working with community partners to bring in additional resources, such as water bowls, but supplies will be limited.

## Where else can I find an indoor space to cool down?

The City is working closely with a number of community partners to identify cool indoor spaces. Here are some options for the next few days (*note: this list will be updated if new information becomes available*).

### Wednesday, July 27

- Kal Tire Place: open until 9 p.m.
- Vernon Aquatic and Recreation Centre: open until 9 p.m.
- Village Green Shopping Centre: open until 6 p.m.
- Okanagan Regional Library, Vernon Branch: open until 9 p.m.
- Schubert Centre: open until 5 p.m.

### Thursday, July 28

- Kal Tire Place: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Vernon Aquatic and Recreation Centre: 6:30 a.m. – 9 p.m. (*Note: there is a private booking in the Aquatic Centre from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., but the rest of the Recreation Centre remains available*)
- Village Green Shopping Centre: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Okanagan Regional Library, Vernon Branch: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Schubert Centre: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Friday, July 29

- Kal Tire Place: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Vernon Aquatic and Recreation Centre: 6:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.
- Village Green Shopping Centre: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Okanagan Regional Library, Vernon Branch: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- Schubert Centre: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Saturday, July 30

- Kal Tire Place: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Vernon Aquatic and Recreation Centre: 12 – 4 p.m.
- Village Green Shopping Centre: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Okanagan Regional Library, Vernon Branch: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

### Sunday, July 31

- Kal Tire Place: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Vernon Aquatic and Recreation Centre: 12 – 4 p.m.
- Village Green Shopping Centre: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Monday, August 1

- Kal Tire Place: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Vernon Aquatic and Recreation Centre: 12 – 4 p.m.

- Village Green Shopping Centre: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### **When and where are the pop-up spray parks available?**

[Pop-up spray parks](#) will be available at Lakeview Park (3001 18<sup>th</sup> Street) between today and Sunday, July 31. Hours of operation:

- Wednesday, July 27 – Friday, July 29: 4:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- Saturday, July 30 – Sunday, July 31: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

More information about the pop-up spray park program is available at [www.vernon.ca/news](http://www.vernon.ca/news).

### **Where can I find publicly accessible fountains and water refill stations?**

- Polson Park – close to the band shell, across from the Pavilion (2600 Highway 6)
- Downtown washroom at 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue / 35<sup>th</sup> Street
- Bus loop downtown washroom at 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue / 30<sup>th</sup> Street
- DND Park – Falaise Drive (access off Mission Road)
- Marshall Fields – at the back of the soccer building near the washrooms (6891 Okanagan Landing Rd)
- Ranger Park (1900 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue)

### **Where can I find publicly accessible washrooms with potable water?**

- MacDonald Park (43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue / 27<sup>th</sup> Street)
- Alexis Park (3951 Alexis Park Dr)
- Grahame Park (5700 Okanagan Ave)
- Polson Park (2600 Highway 6)
- Kin Beach Park (7248 Tronson Rd)
- Paddlewheel Park (7815 Okanagan Landing Rd)
- Marshall Fields (6891 Okanagan Landing Rd)

For additional information on the City's response to the heat event and to find tips on how to stay safe from heat-related illness, visit the City's website at [www.vernon.ca](http://www.vernon.ca).