

May 8, 2020

Dear parents and students of New Westminster Secondary School,

BC Housing, the City of New Westminster, School District 40, Lookout Housing and Health Society and Fraser Health are working together to open a new emergency response centre (ERC) to provide up to 40 safe spaces for vulnerable people during the COVID-19 pandemic. The ERC is temporary and will be located at the Massey Complex in New Westminster.

Lookout Housing and Health Society, an experienced local service provider, will be operating the Massey Complex ERC. This temporary ERC will provide safe space for individuals experiencing homelessness to stay indoors, practice physical distancing and help slow the spread of COVID-19.

The ERC is expected to open on Monday, May 11th and will be closed to the public. The ERC is only for individuals who have been assessed and referred by Fraser Health. Walk-ins will not be admitted.

The ERC will be operated by an experienced housing provider with staff onsite 24/7 supported by security guards to respond to any issues that may arise. Trained staff and security teams will be working both inside the shelter space and patrolling the exterior to ensure everyone remains safe and secure. Kitchen staff and custodial crews will be onsite 24/7 to provide daily nutritious meals and cleaning services. Health care services will be provided by Fraser Health for those who require support.

Please see the attached fact sheet for more information. We welcome any questions you may have at communityrelations@bchousing.org.

Sincerely,

BC Housing Communications