

NVMA COVID-19 PUBLIC RESPONSE

March 13, 2020

Steps NVMA Is Taking

The health and safety of our patrons and staff is our priority during this time. Here are some of the steps we're taking:

Enhanced Cleaning

NVMA has implemented enhanced cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surfaces at our facilities. The Archives does not routinely disinfect materials when they are browsed or used in-house.

Work from Home

NVMA requires that all staff stay home from work if feeling ill or in the instance of exposure to Covid-19.

Home Services

During this time, you may not be coming to the Archives as often as you usually do. NVMA Archival staff will endeavour to fulfill research requests by phone and internet. NVMA has digital services available to you for free, such as our nvma.ca website which contains incredibly rich and diverse material and stories of North Vancouver, copies of our *Express* newsletter, and our Archives Database (nvma.ca/archives)

Events and Programs

We are carefully monitoring recommendations from local health authorities regarding public gatherings. At this point, NVMA events will continue as scheduled. Any updates will be posted to our website. Health BC recommends some best practices for gatherings, including:

- Social distancing

- Avoid using usual greetings (hugging, handshakes, etc.)

- Consideration for virtual gatherings

- Most importantly, staying away if you are experiencing any illness

We will continue to communicate any further impacts to the NVMA Community as a result of coronavirus. Thank you for your patience as we work through this developing situation.

What You Can Do

The best way to reduce the risk of getting colds, flu and COVID-19 is by:

Washing your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds as often as possible.

Alcohol-based hand sanitizer is a good option if washing with soap and water isn't possible.

Coughing and sneezing into a tissue or your shirt-sleeve rather than your hands.

Avoiding contact with people that are coughing or sneezing.

Practicing "social distancing" when in close proximity to others.

Stay home if you're sick or experiencing flu-like symptoms. If you think you may have symptoms of coronavirus, call 8-1-1 for an assessment.

Staying Informed

For up-to-date, accurate information regarding coronavirus, NVMA recommend the following resources:

The Public Health Agency of Canada: Information line for the COVID-19 novel coronavirus: 1-833-784-4397

Health Link BC: healthlinkbc.ca or call 8-1-1

Vancouver Coastal Health: vch.ca

BC Centre for Disease Control: bccdc.ca