

	Outline	
1. Introduction	Welcome/logistics/introductions	Jackie Kanyuk, BCNPHA
2. Context & CoV response	<ul><li>Climate projections</li><li>Risks</li><li>Preparations at the City of Vancouver</li></ul>	Tamsin Mills, City of Vancouver
3. Metro Van Case study	<ul> <li>Extreme heat response, Metro Van Housing</li> <li>Existing tools &amp; resources</li> </ul>	Ulryke Weissgerber, Metro Vancouver
4. Low/no- cost strategies	<ul> <li>Low cost/no cost strategies for single family and low-rise buildings</li> </ul>	Chris Higgins, City of Vancouver
5. COVID-19 Guidance	<ul> <li>COVID-19 transmission</li> <li>Cleaning and disinfection</li> <li>Considerations for setting up cooling rooms</li> </ul>	Angela Eykelbosh, National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health, BCCDC
6. Resources	•BC Housing tools and resources	Jackie Kanyuk
7. Closing Remarks	•Q+A and closing remarks	Jackie Kanyuk

# A Changing Climate

Hotter, Drier Summers with air quality issues



#### Summer of 2018

 A number of temperature records were broken on Tuesday August 29, 2018:

- Vancouver Harbour 30.5 C
- Kamloops 38.5 C
- Princeton 36 C
- Sparwood 32.1 C
- Williams Lake 31.9 C
- Pemberton 35.1 C
- Whistler 31.8 C

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(28.9 C in 1967)
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(35.6 C in 1915)

(35 C in 1897)

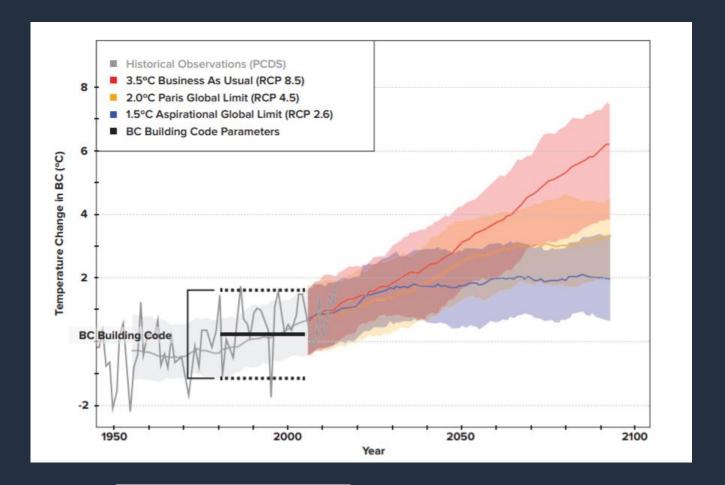
(30.6 C in 1972)

(31.1 C in 1967)

(34.4 C in 1974)

(31.1 C in 1996)



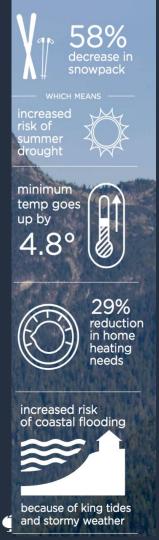












Warmer, wetter winters

Hotter, drier summers



#### Cooling Degree Days - Past

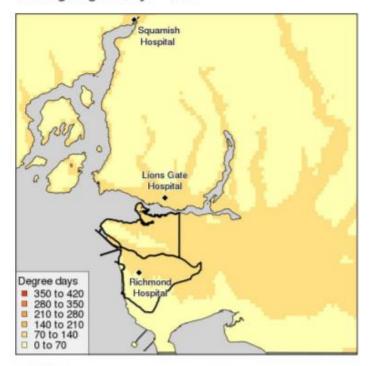
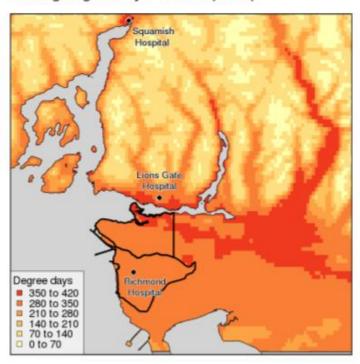


Figure 7: Cooling Degree Days - Past and Future (2050)

#### Cooling Degree Days - Future (2050)



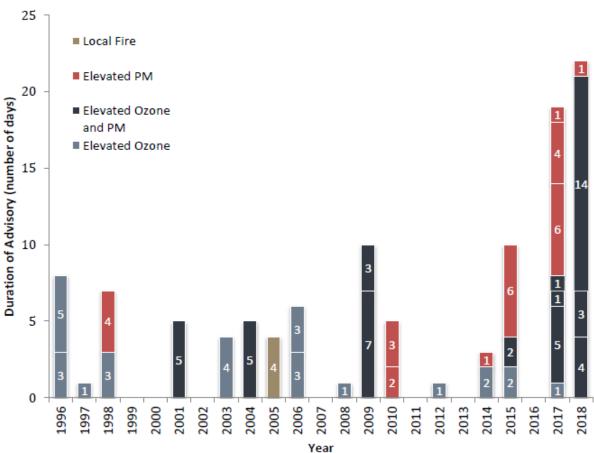








#### Air quality advisories 1996-2018





Data in this graph was provided by Metro Vancouver.

"authorities expect [a] 120 percent increase in daily physician visits and an 80 percent rise [in] asthma prescription medications dispensed at pharmacies, according to the BC Centre for Disease Control."

- The National Post (August 21, 2018)





When it rains it pours

Longer Growing Season



# BC Climate Projections 2050

- Van. Isl.: Similar to Vancouver projections
- Interior and Cariboo: also hotter and drier with a longer dry season and increased risk of wildfire.
- North: Increased precipitation in summer but with warmer temperatures
- Streamflow changing: less summer precip., reduced snowpack, earlier / more rapid snowmelt



#### BC Climate Risk Assessment

#### Summary of Risk Assessment Rankings

RISK EVENT		PRESENT-DAY LIKELIHOOD	2050 LIKELIHOOD	CONSEQUENCE	RISK SCORE AND RATIN	
	Severe wildfire season	3	4	4.5	18.0	High
	Seasonal water shortage	4	5	3.4	16.9	High
	Heat wave	3	4	3.6	14.5	High
<u></u>	Ocean acidification	2	5	2.8	13.8	High
<b>(4)</b>	Glacier mass loss	1	5	2.5	12.5	High
	Long-term water shortage	3	3	4.0	12.0	High





#### Heat Event Preparedness and Response

#### Extreme Heat IRG

- Event Escalation & Notification
- Preparedness Activities
- Response Activities
  - Increase access to drinking water
  - Provide shelter from heat
  - Monitor outdoor spaces & SROs
  - Messaging
- Tools
  - Notification templates & agendas, contact list, key messaging by topics, web links, handouts, etc.

4.3 Monitoring Outdoor Spaces For People Suffering Heat-Related Illness							
Function	Activity	Department/Agency		Special Weather	Heat		
101121011		Lead	Support	Statement	Warning		
	Activate VVC to patrol at risk neighbourhoods to advise vulnerable groups on locations to water fountains and to report malfunctioning water fountains	OEM	ENG (OPS)	•	•		
Increase Vigilance for People Outside	Perform drive-by in parks and in commercial areas to assist people exhibiting signs of heat-related illness and to encourage people to look after each other (where operationally feasible.	VFRS		•	•		
Outside	Patrol neighbourhoods and nearby parks (particularly the DTES) by Neighborhood Policing Officers and other officers to refer vulnerable populations to nearby water access points	VPD		•	•		
	Increased park patrols by Park Rangers to locate and assist people suffering from heat-related illness	PARKS		•	•		
Increasing Hours of Operations for Spray Parks	Extend wading pool and spray park hours of operations (dependent on approvals)	PARKS			•		



#### Long Term Planning for Heat

- Pilot clean air shelters
- Building bylaw changes
- Adding water fountains
- Temporary spray parks
- Improving shade where needed
- Non-market housing temporary and long term fixes





#### Thank you

Tamsin.mills@vancouver.ca
Sustainability Group
City of Vancouver





Ulryke Weissgerber

DIVISION MANAGER, AREA OPERATIONS

BC Non Profit Housing Association Webinar May 13, 2020



Metro Vancouver Housing Sites

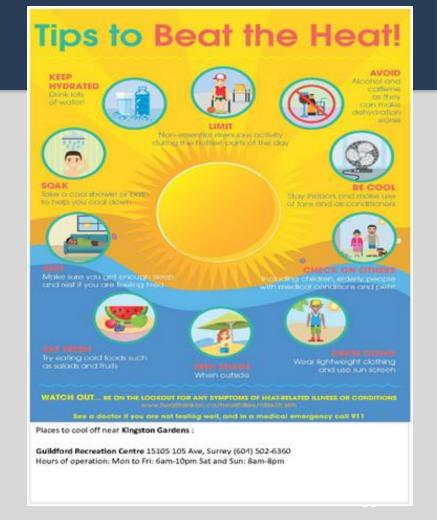


#### For Staff



https://www.ccohs.ca/products/posters/pdfs/keepyourcool.pdf

#### Neighbourhood Information



#### **Cooling Centre**

Date: June 13, 2019

To: All Residents, Cedarwood Place From: Lisa Jacques, SW Area Manager

Mary Ricci, Tenant Programs & Services Supervisor

Cc:

RE: Cooling Zone at Cedarwood Place

Metro Vancouver Housing is pleased to provide a cooling zone in the Cedarwood Place Community Room during the summer months for residents to enjoy.

The air conditioning unit will run from 9:00 am to 10:00 pm daily.



During extreme heat events, residents are reminded to drink lots of water, wear lightweight clothing, limit strenuous activity, stay indoors and enjoy the cooling room.

To ensure the cooling zone works properly:

- Do not to tamper with the controls on the air conditioning unit
- Keep doors to the room closed at all times to keep the cool air in.

If temperature adjustments are required, please let us know.

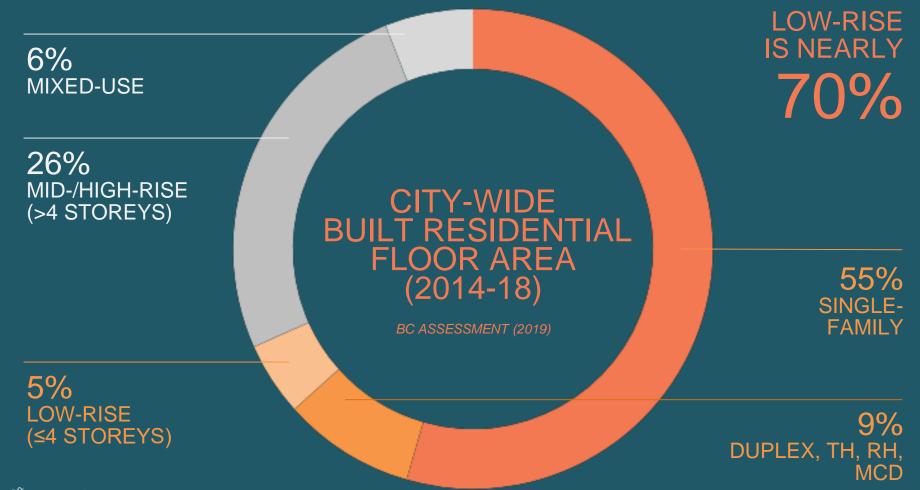
Your comments are always welcome.

#### Daily Safe Checks

- Program is voluntary, 100% participation not required
- •Interested tenants place a hotel style card on the outside of their door
- The card is removed on waking
- •Tenant volunteers check each door at a pre-appointed time every day (around noon)
- •If a card is still on a door, attempts to reach the tenant are made (by knocking on the door, phoning, and contacting site staff)
- •Residents just that if lonely and wanting a visit, leave the card on the door

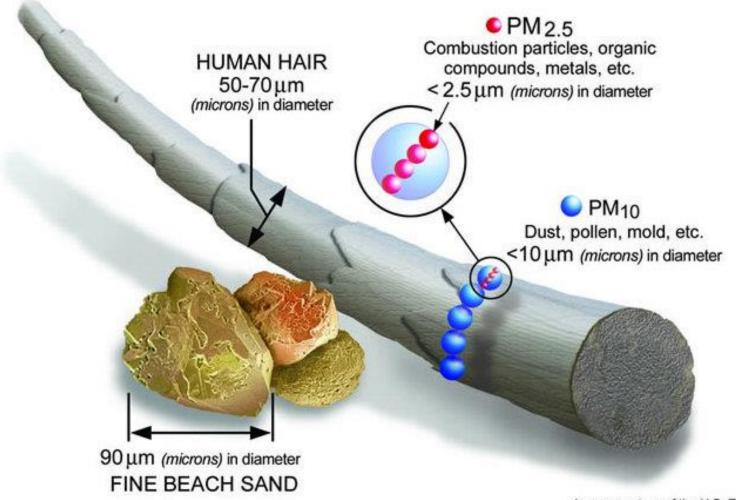








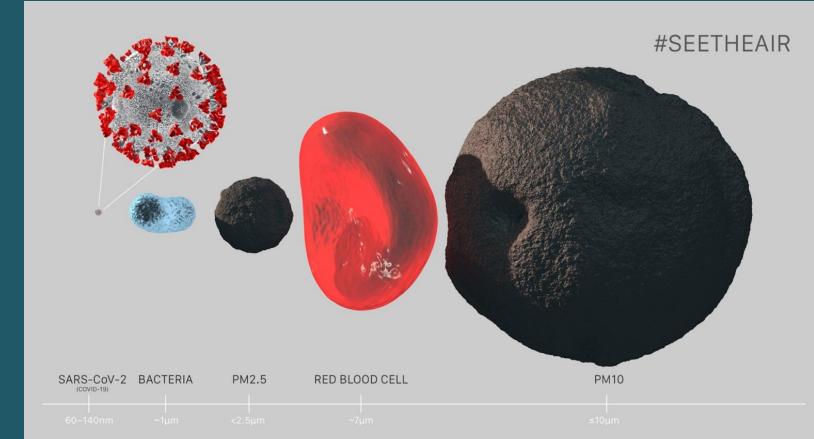
# What is PM 2.5?







# What is PM 2.5?





### Where does PM 2.5 come from?



agriculture

Factory



# What is the MERV Scale

t	MERV Rating	Air Filter will trap Air Particles size .03 to 1.0 microns	Air Filter will trap Air Particles size 1.0 to 3.0 microns	Air Filter will trap Air Particles size 3 to 10 microns	Filter Type ~ Removes These Particles
	MERV 1	< 20%	< 20%	< 20%	Fiberglass & Aluminum Mesh
	MERV 2	< 20%	< 20%	< 20%	~
	MERV 3	< 20%	< 20%	< 20%	Pollen, Dust Mites, Spray Paint,
$\bigvee$	MERV 4	< 20%	< 20%	< 20%	Carpet Fibres
	MERV 5	< 20%	< 20%	20% - 34%	Cheap Disposable Filters
	MERV 6	< 20%	< 20%	35% - 49%	~
	MERV 7	< 20%	< 20%	50% - 69%	Mold Spores, Cooking Dusts,
	MERV 8	< 20%	< 20%	70% - 85%	Hair Spray, Furniture Polish
	MERV 9	< 20%	Less than 50%	85% or Better	Better Home Box Filters
	MERV10	< 20%	50% to 64%	85% or Better	~
	MERV 11	< 20%	65% - 79%	85% or Better	Lead Dust, Flour, Auto
	MERV 12	< 20%	80% - 90%	90% or Better	Fumes, Welding Fumes
Ī	MERV 13	Less than 75%	90% or Better	90% or Better	Superior Commercial Filters
	MERV 14	75% - 84%	90% or Better	90% or Better	~
	MERV 15	85% - 94%	95% or Better	90% or Better	Bacteria, Smoke, Sneezes
	MERV 16	95% or Better	95% or Better	90% or Better	•
	MERV 17	99.97%	99% or Better	99% or Better	HEPA & ULPA
	MERV 18	99.997%	99% or Better	99% or Better	~
	MERV 19	99.9997%	99% or Better	99% or Better	Viruses, Carbon Dust, <.30 pm
	MERV 20	99.99997%	99% or Better	99% or Better	



## **MERV Scale**







pollen





















GREENEST







debris



spores













## Three Approaches

#### Single Room

Lowest cost if limited rooms are to be cleaned

# Whole Home Furnace

A great option when replacing a furnace or fan coil

#### Whole home HRV

A great option on a new building of any size, filters can be outside the suite for easy maintenance





# Clean one room: Blue Air 211+











# Lennox lean Air



### Zehnder ComfoWell HRV filter



## **Operating Costs**

Higher MERV filters cost more, though a lower MERV filter could be used part year

**MERV 11 Filter** 

\$30 a year for single family

**MERV 16 filter** 

\$120 a year for single family



# What it means to a homeowner/renter

## Comfort at home

due to improved filtration

# Ability to shelter in place

Less dust, with carbon systems a cleaner smell

#### Needed focus on filter change

Filters must be changed every 12 months





## Thank You



Centre de collaboration nationale en santé environnementale

www.ncceh.ca









# **COVID-19 Transmission and Precautions for Shared Spaces**

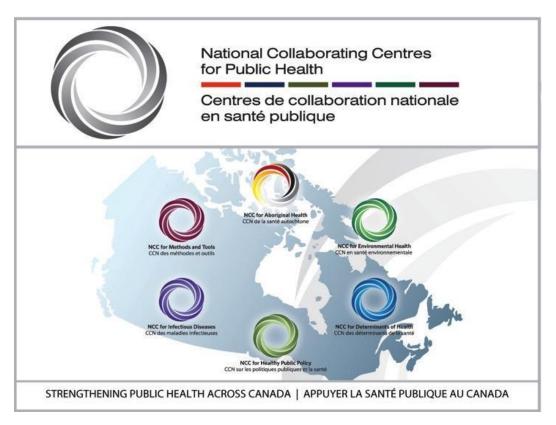
May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020

#### Angela Eykelbosh, PhD

National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health BC Centre for Disease Control Angela.Eykelbosh@bccdc.ca

Production of this presentation has been made possible through a financial contribution from the **Public Health Agency of Canada**.





Established by the Public Health Agency of Canada in 2005 to promote evidence-informed public policy.

Evidence-based knowledge synthesis and translation

Identify knowledge gaps

Foster networks, build capacity for Canada's public health system

## **COVID-19 Topic Page**

- Review of 50+ public health websites
- Many env health topics
- Our documents:
  - Disease backgrounder
  - Building re-opening
  - Precautions for MURBs
  - Guide to masking
  - Outdoor safety

## Environmental Health Resources for the COVID-19 Pandemic



#### Built Environment Contaminants and Hazards Infectious Diseases

The transmission of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, occurs primarily via direct contact with or respiratory droplets from an infected person. However, there is evidence to suggest that transmission via other modes – such as contaminated surfaces, aerosols, or contact with fecal material – is possible. As such, environmental health practitioners have a key role to play in promoting general hygiene measures as well as addressing unique information needs as the pandemic affects all aspect of public and private life.

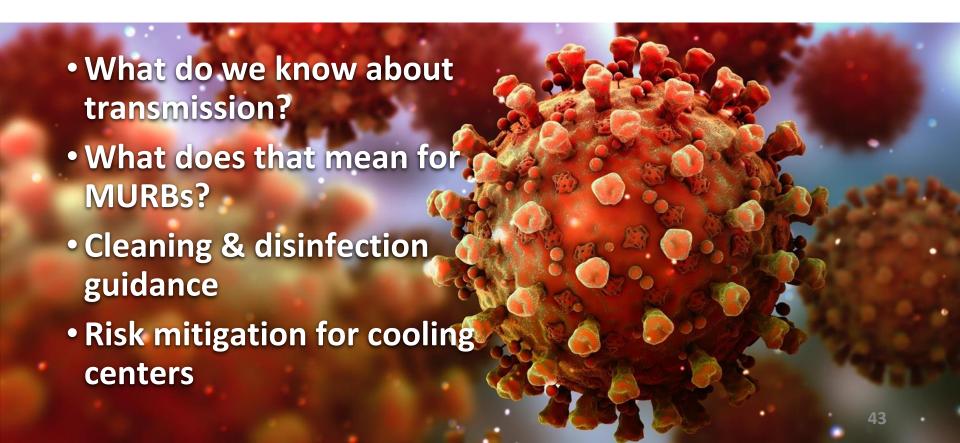
This topic page has been created to promote key COVID-19 resources to environmental health practitioners and related professions. We are actively collecting and curating resources from more than 50 Canadian and international public health agencies, and will be promoting those resources via social media and by providing the essential resources on this topic page. This information is current to the date at the bottom of the page.

#### NCCEH Resources

This st transm the viru

www.ncceh.ca

## Today



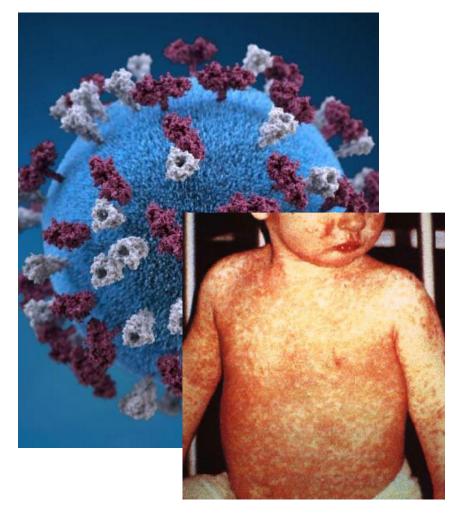
## Modes of SARS-CoV-2 Transmission

 Evidence supports 5 potential modes.

 Direct contact and respiratory droplets are primary modes.

 Role of aerosols and fecal shedding still unclear



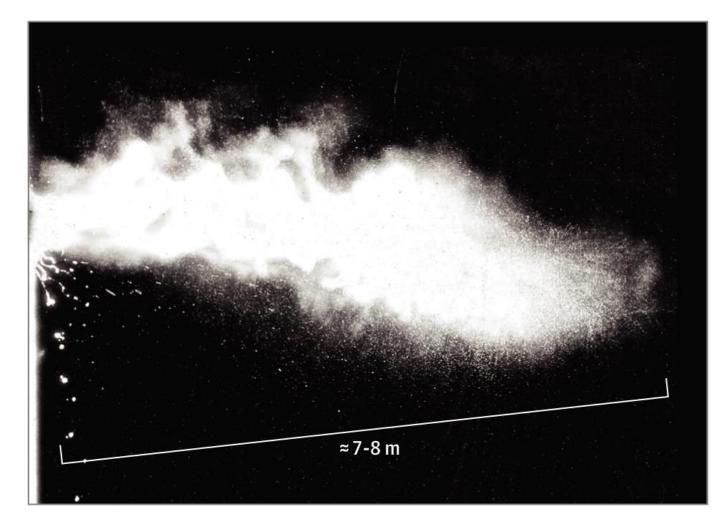


### Is the virus "airborne?"

- Means different things to different people
  - Transmits easily via an aerosol over longer distances/periods.
  - E.g., Measles: aerosol that remains suspend for ~2 hours.
  - Can catch it from someone even if you've never been in the same room as them.
  - Highly contagious: up to 90% of susceptible contacts will get it!

## What's the difference?

Respiratory droplets	Aerosols					
"Large" (> 5 um) gobs of mucus and virus	Relatively smaller (< 5 um)					
Expelled or generated when coughing, sneezing, talking, laughing, singing, and speaking.						
Float a few seconds, fall within ~1 m (~2 m for safety).	Float for minutes to hours, can travel further than 2 m.					
Infect by contacting the eyes or mucus membranes (nose or mouth)	Are inhaled deeper into the lung					



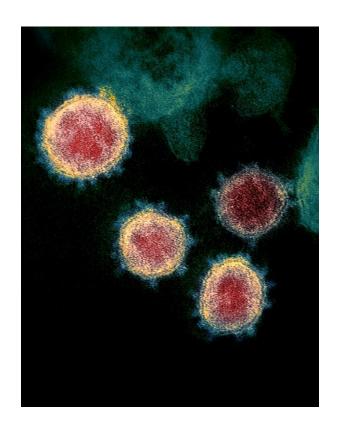
## Multiphase turbulent gas cloud from a sneeze.

"Throughout the trajectory, droplets of all sizes settle out or evaporate at rates that depend not only on their size, but also on the degree of turbulence and speed of the gas cloud, coupled with the properties of the ambient environment..."

Bourouiba et al. JAMA MAR 26, 2020

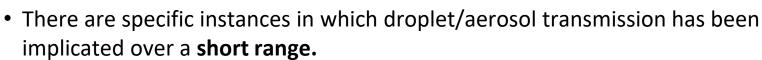
### Is there a reason for concern?

- People DO generate aerosols:
  - Does every droplet carry the virus? What concentration of virus-laden aerosols are produced?
- Viral RNA HAS been found in the air in hospitals
  - How long does it remain infectious? How far does it travel?
- We CAN artificially generate viral aerosols that remain infectious for hours.
  - Does a sick person generate an aerosol like that, and when? How long does it remain infectious?
     How many viruses do you need to inhale to establish an infection?



## Where are people getting sick?

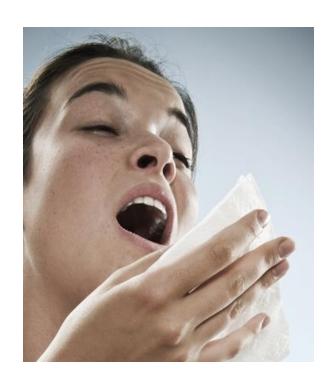
- 75,000+ cases in China and US:
  - Most transmission is within families.
  - Household secondary attack rate varies (~0.5-20%), but is low.
- Outbreaks in residential buildings with interpersonal interaction and/or shared facilities:
  - Seniors homes, work camps, dorms, prisons.



- E.g., Guangzhou restaurant, Washington choir, South Korean call centre
- MURBs? No evidence of outbreaks or long-range transmission to date.



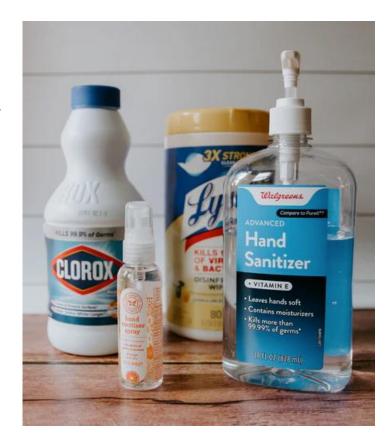
### What does this all mean for MURBs???



- Need to keep people away from each other:
  - Close amenities, limit elevator/laundry access, discourage gatherings, electronic meetings.
- Need to enhance cleaning:
  - Sustainable enhanced cleaning protocol
  - Prevent cross-contamination in shared facilities
  - Close what you cannot clean
- Need to communicate with residents, reinforce health messaging
- Need to keep people comfortable and healthy in their homes

## **Cleaning and Disinfection**

- Public Health Agency of Canada: manual cleaning with soap and water and/or a disinfectant product.
  - 2-in-1 products (wipes) only work on lightly soiled surfaces
  - If in doubt, there is a product list.
- High touch surfaces cleaned 2x a day
- Vacuuming: HEPA exhaust filter, diffuser
- Steam cleaning fabric items
- Removing what you can't clean easily
- Spraying and fogging: problematic
- Do not mix products! Follow the label!
- NCCEH has a guide on disinfectants and household cleaning.



## **PPE for Staff/Cleaners**

- Should ALWAYS use PPE as per label on the disinfectant product
- Disposable or reusable products OK
  - Launder and dry hot
  - Gloves: use only for that purpose
- Do s/he need a mask?
  - Is the cleaner within 2 m of people?
  - Is s/he creating dust?
  - Does s/he wish to wear a non-medical mask to protect others?
- NCCEH has a guidance doc on masking



## Current Guidance on Ventilation for MURBs

#### • In the building:

- Consult an HVAC professional
- Ensure systems is maintained and functioning as designed, run it 24/7, increase outdoor air
- NCCEH Building Shutdown and Reopening page

#### • In suites:

- Increase ventilation (open windows).
- Air cleaners (ASHRAE)



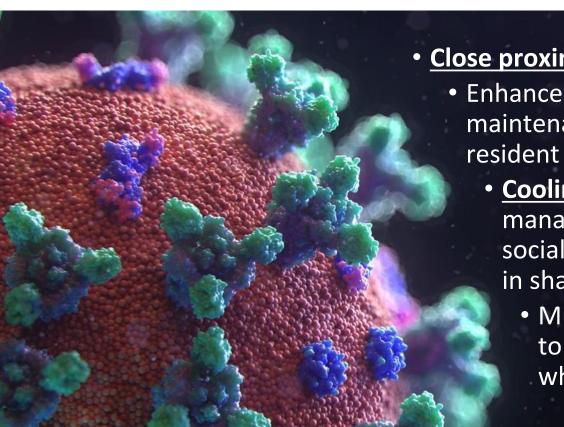
## COVID-19, extreme heat, and smoke

- New normal: Public spaces used for cooling/cleaner air shelters may be closed or restricted
- Staying cool at home or in cooling rooms will be more important
- People who are most vulnerable to heat and smoke are ALSO most vulnerable to COVID-19.
- Sharing indoor spaces = some degree unavoidable risk
- Technical challenge: ventilation and recirculating air

## COVID-19, extreme heat, and smoke

- So what should we do?
  - Support in-home cooling with equipment and wellness checks.
  - Outdoor cooling areas: transmission risk greatly decreased
  - Last resort: cooling rooms
- Cooling rooms have some degree of unavoidable risk, but save lives!
  - Cleaning and disinfection
  - Spaced out seating?
  - Masks if do not impede breathing?
  - Portable AC units and portable air cleaners?

## **Key Messages**



• Close proximity is key for transmission.

 Enhanced cleaning and HVAC maintenance are necessary to promote resident health and comfort.

 Cooling rooms are riskier now; must manage the risks of extreme heat and social isolation against COVID-19 risk in shared spaces.

• Must <u>communicate</u> with residents to ensure cooling rooms are used when necessary.





#### What to do: A Checklist

etc.

### Extreme Heat Checklist You can do the following things to help reduce the amount of heat in your building: Check if heat is off in hallways Open windows in hallways and communal spaces (if safe) to create cross breeze at night and during the day if there is wind, otherwise keep these windows closed You can do the following to make sure that tenants are aware of what to do in extreme heat situations: Identify community assets with air conditioning that your tenants can use if there is an emergency

These assets can include public spaces such as libraries, malls, community centres,



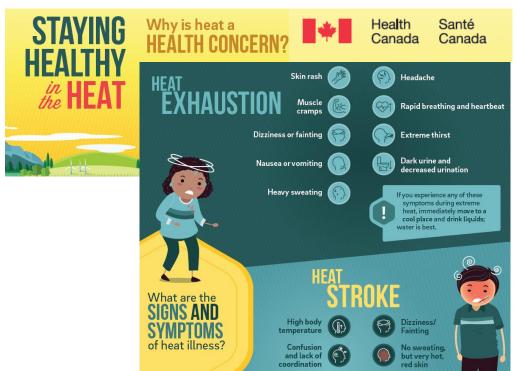
#### What to do: A Checklist

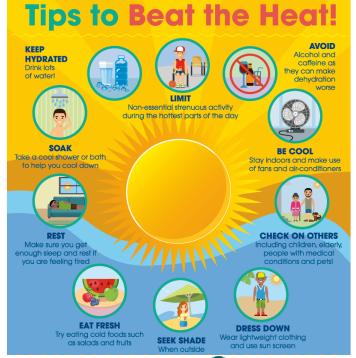


- ☐ Have an information session with tenants and mention:
- Keeping windows closed during the day and open at night
- Closing window coverings during the day, if their unit has window coverings
- Reducing use of heat generating appliances like stoves/ovens to reduce heat emitted
- The list of places to go in the community that are clean air or cool air shelters
- ☐ Post tenant information communication sheets about Extreme Heat
- Post the <u>Health Canada sheet</u> or BC Housing's <u>Tips to Beat the Heat</u> sheet in common areas
- ☐ If you have pre-identified tenants, check on them to make sure they are prepared for the heat
- Pre-identification of tenants, especially vulnerable to extreme heat should be done in the spring
- For more information about steps to prepare your building(s) for summer extreme heat in the spring time, see the Pre-Season Extreme Heat Checklist.



#### **Communicate with Tenants**

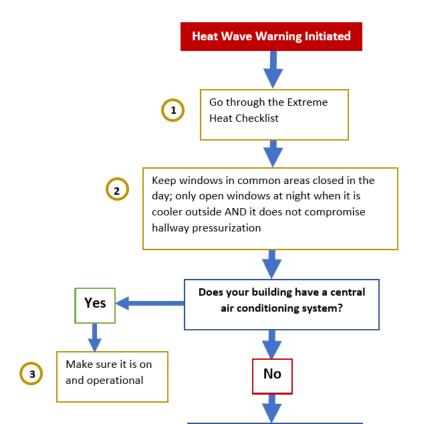








#### **What to do: Extreme Heat Decision Tree**









	WHAT TO I	OOK FOR	WHAT TO DO		
HEAT STROKE	High body temperature (103°F or higher) Hot, red, or dry skin Absence of sweat Fast, strong pulse Headache		Call 911 right away – heat stroke is a medical emergency Move the person to a cooler place	Help lower the person's temperature with cool cloths or a cool bath     Do not give the person anything to drink	HEAT STROKE
HEAT EXHAUSTION	<ul> <li>Heavy sweating</li> <li>Cold, pale, and clammy skin</li> <li>Fast, weak pulse</li> <li>Nausea or vomiting</li> <li>Muscle cramps</li> </ul>	> Tiredness or weakness > Dizziness > Headache > Fainting (passing out)	Move person to a cool place Loosen tight clothes Put cool, wet cloths on the person's body Take a cool bath Sip water	Get medical help right away if:  The person is throwing up  Symptoms get worse  Symptoms last longer than 1 hour	HEAT EXHAUSTION
HEAT CRAMPS	> Heavy sweating during intense exercise	> Muscle pain or spasms	Stop physical activity and move person to a cool place  Drink water or a sports drink  Wait for cramps to go away before doing any more physical activity	Get medical help right away if:  Cramps last longer than 1 hour  The person is on a low sodium diet  The person has a heart problem	HEAT CRAMPS
HEAT RASH	Red clusters of small blisters that look like pimples on the skin (often on the neck, chest, groin, or in elbow crease)	> Intense scratching of inflamed skin/blisters	> Keep the rash dry > Don't scratch the rash	Use powder (e.g. baby powder) to soothe the rash Apply calamine lotion	HEAT RASH





## **Strategies for Cooling Rooms: Mechanical**

Type of Cooling	Personal Fan Pedestal/Tower	Portable Air Conditioners	Window Mounted Air Conditioners	Packaged Terminal Air Conditioners (PTACs)	Heat Pumps	Central Air Conditioning
Cost (Purchase and Maintenance)	\$\$	\$\$\$	\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$

Least efficient Most efficient





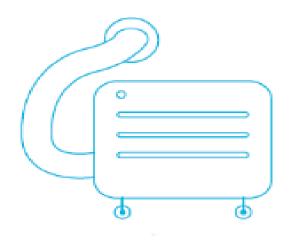
#### **Mechanical Cooling: Fans**



- **✓** Inexpensive
- ✓ Low running costs and energy usage
- ✓ Portable, adjustable airflow direction
- ✓ Provides temporary cooling when directed at the body
- × Does not lower room temperature
- × Single room use only



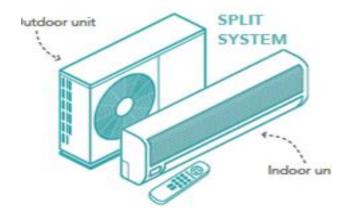
#### **Mechanical Cooling: Portable Air Conditioners**



- **✓** Portable
- Easy and inexpensive to install
- × Less efficient discharges heat
- × Electric costs = 5x more than fan
- × Smaller spaces only
- × Noisy operation
- × Has placement restrictions
- × Could go missing
- × Water drainage/management issues
- × Requires frequent filter maintenance
- 2-hose models are more efficient than single hosed models



#### **Mechanical Cooling: Mini Split Heat Pumps**



- Provides cost savings: offers both heating and cooling
- ✓ Very efficient
- Quiet operation
- ✓ Low energy costs
- ✓ Requires only a small hole in wall
- ✓ May be used for multiple rooms
- × Expensive to purchase and install



#### Resources for adding mechanical cooling



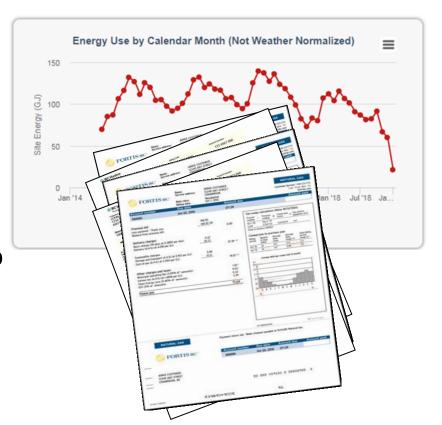






#### A Word on Energy Management and Cooling

- Mechanical cooling increases energy use
- Utility incentives are for energy savings
- No rebate programs to add cooling in multi-unit residential
- Contact energy@bcnpha.ca for help and more information





#### **Contact BC Non-Profit Housing Association for help**



Free Virtual Energy Audits



Capital Planning Services



**Energy Management Services** 



Support with Retrofit Funding





