

## BUILDING INSPECTIONS OF OCCUPIED STRUCTURES COVID-19 Protocols

September 4, 2020

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The Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) remains committed to reducing the risk of exposure and transmission of COVID-19 in our workplaces and in our communities as we continue to deliver services to our citizens.

Effective immediately, and in keeping with Phase 3 of *BC's Restart Plan*, the FVRD Building Department can once again perform building inspections of occupied structures **where it is safe to do so**.

Minimizing the risk of exposure and transmission of COVID-19 is a shared social responsibility. In the interests of public and worker health and safety, building inspections of occupied structures will require taking additional steps by occupants and building inspection staff in a COVID-19 environment.

The following protocols **must** be followed for an occupied structure to be inspected during the COVID-19 pandemic:

- » A building inspection of an occupied structure will not take place where an occupant of the occupied structure is sick, has symptoms of COVID-19, or in isolation as a result of COVID-19.
- » Building Inspectors are required to self-screen for COVID-19 daily and are not permitted to attend work if they are sick or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 or as otherwise set out in the FVRD's *COVID-19 Exposure Control and Transmission Reduction Policy*.
- » All windows in the occupied structure **must** be opened at all times during the inspection of an occupied structure to allow for cross-ventilation.
- » All persons in attendance during a building inspection of an occupied structure **must** maintain two meters of physical distance between other persons in attendance at all times. Where this is not possible, all persons in attendance must wear masks.
- » One person designated by the property owner or occupant must be in attendance during a building inspection of an occupied structure. This person will help facilitate the building inspection as required by the Building Inspector. All other occupants of the occupied building must vacate the premises during the building inspection, where possible.
- » Building inspections of occupied multi-storey structures will typically be inspected floor by floor. Occupants on each floor must vacate the premises during the building inspection, where possible, as the building inspection progresses.
- » Building inspection staff may exercise discretion and refuse to inspect an occupied structure if they believe it is unsafe to do so because of COVID-19 considerations, or if they have other health and safety concerns.
- » Building Inspectors must follow WorkSafeBC COVID-19 protocols at all times and may wear personal protective equipment as required.



## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

*[www.fvrd.ca](http://www.fvrd.ca) | [building@fvrd.ca](mailto:building@fvrd.ca)*

The Building Department prides itself on delivering exceptional customer service and we are pleased to be able to once again offer building inspections of occupied structures under our COVID-19 protocols. The health and safety of the public and our staff will continue to be our top priority as we work together to reduce the risk of exposure and transmission of COVID-19.

For additional information, please contact the Building Department at [604-702-5016](tel:604-702-5016) or [building@fvrd.ca](mailto:building@fvrd.ca).