
INFORMATION BULLETIN

For Immediate Release
2020EMBC0020-000702
April 15, 2020

COVID-19 Joint Information Centre
Emergency Management BC
Ministry of Health

B.C. COVID-19 response update

VICTORIA – The COVID-19 situation in British Columbia is continually evolving, and the information below is current as of 3 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2020.

Cases:

- Total confirmed cases in B.C.: 1,561
- New cases since April 14, 2020: 44
- Hospitalized cases: 131
- Intensive care: 59
- COVID-19 related deaths: 75
- Recovered: 955
- Long-term care and assisted-living homes currently affected: 21

Confirmed cases by region:

- Vancouver Coastal Health: 670
- Fraser Health: 623
- Island Health: 92
- Interior Health: 146
- Northern Health: 30

New provincial advice and measures:

- NEW: State of emergency extended to continue B.C.'s COVID-19 response: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020EMBC0020-000697>
- NEW: Liquor store hours extended to protect seniors, most vulnerable: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020AG0031-000694>
- NEW: To improve travel for commercial truck drivers, the Government of B.C. is funding the installation of portable toilets at several commercial vehicle pull-outs, inspection stations and chain-up locations throughout the province: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020TRAN0056-000690>

New federal measures:

- NEW: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announces expanded access to Canada Emergency Response Benefit and support for essential workers: <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/04/15/prime-minister-announces-expanded-access-canada-emergency-response>
- NEW: The Canada Border Services Agency announced the temporary reduction of service

hours at certain low-traffic ports of entry along the Canada-United States land border today: <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2020/04/covid-19--temporary-reduction-of-service-at-some-low-traffic-canadian-land-border-crossings.html>

- NEW: Government of Canada updates mandatory requirements for travellers entering Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2020/04/government-of-canada-updates-mandatory-requirements-for-travellers-entering-canada.html>
- NEW: Patty Hajdu, federal Minister of Health, launched a new portal dedicated to mental wellness on: <https://canada.ca/coronavirus>
And the Canada COVID-19 app: <https://ca.thrive.health/covid19app/home>
Read more: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2020/04/government-of-canada-connects-canadians-with-mental-wellness-supports-during-covid-190.html>
- NEW: To help limit the spread of COVID-19, Parks Canada suspends camping, group activities and events across the country until at least May 31, 2020: <https://www.canada.ca/en/parks-canada/news/2020/04/to-help-limit-the-spread-of-covid-19-parks-canada-suspends-camping-group-activities-and-events-across-the-country-until-at-least-may-31-2020.html>
- NEW: Joint statement by Filomena Tassi, Minister of Labour, and leaders from labour and industry regarding support for workers and employers during the COVID-19 crisis: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-the-honourable-filomena-tassi-minister-of-labour-and-leaders-from-labour-and-industry-regarding-support-for-workers-and-employer.html>
- NEW: Expanding access to the Canada Emergency Response Benefit and proposing a new wage boost for essential workers: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/04/expanding-access-to-the-canada-emergency-response-benefit-and-proposing-a-new-wage-boost-for-essential-workers.html>
- NEW: Government announces relief for federally regulated pension plan sponsors: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/04/government-announces-relief-for-federally-regulated-pension-plan-sponsors.html>

Media availability schedule:

Upcoming scheduled media availabilities with Adrian Dix, B.C.'s Minister of Health, and Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer:

Thursday, April 16 – statement only (no media availability)

Friday, April 17 – 9:15 a.m. technical briefing on modelling; 11 a.m. media availability; 3 p.m. statement issued, Victoria

Saturday, April 18 – noon, Victoria

Resources:

- For provincial support and COVID-19 information, visit: www.gov.bc.ca/covid
- For seniors looking for additional support at this time, call 211 or visit: <http://www.bc211.ca/>
- For information for Indigenous peoples in B.C., visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/indigenous-people/covid19>
- If you or a family member need additional medical advice, call 811.

Testing:

- 58,626 individuals have been tested as of April 14, 2020.
- If symptoms appear, check your symptoms online: <https://covid19.thrive.health>
 - If needed, call your health-care provider or 811 for further guidance.

Learn More:

For the latest videos and livestreaming of COVID-19 media availabilities, visit:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BCProvincialGovernment/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/ProvinceofBC>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BCGovNews>

For the latest medical updates, including case counts, prevention, risks and testing, visit:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/>

Or follow @CDCofBC on Twitter.

For the provincial health officer's orders, notices and guidance, visit:

www.gov.bc.ca/phoguidance

For non-health related information, including financial, child care and education supports, travel, transportation and essential service information, visit: www.gov.bc.ca/Covid-19

Or call 1 888 COVID19 (1 888 268-4319) between 7:30 a.m. and 8 p.m., seven days a week.

For recommendations on protecting yourself and your community, including for employers and businesses, visit:

[http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/coronavirus-\(novel\)](http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/coronavirus-(novel))

For common questions about COVID-19 and terminology, visit:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/common-questions>

Worker and employer information:

For workers and employers who need help understanding the law and their rights, have workplace health and safety questions or who need help with claims, call:

Employment Standards Branch: 1 833 236-3700

For health and safety assistance: 1 888 621-7233 (1 888 621-SAFE)

For workers and claims: 1 888 967-5377 (1 888 WORKERS)

Contacts:

For non-medical information relating to COVID-19:

Visit: www.gov.bc.ca/COVID19

Email: servicebc@gov.bc.ca

Or call: 1 888 COVID-19

Joint Information Centre
COVID Provincial Co-ordination Plan

embc.covidjic@gov.bc.ca

236 478-1336

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: news.gov.bc.ca/connect