
JOINT STATEMENT

For Immediate Release
2020HLTH0026-000924
May 21, 2020

Ministry of Health
Office of the Provincial Health Officer

Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response, latest updates
Chinese translation available

VICTORIA – Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, and Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer, have issued the following joint statement regarding updates on the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) response in British Columbia:

"Today, we have 12 new cases of COVID-19, for a total of 2,479 cases in British Columbia.

"There are 307 active cases of COVID-19 in the province, and 2,020 people who tested positive have recovered.

"Of the total COVID-19 cases, 43 individuals are hospitalized, eight of whom are in intensive care. The remaining people with COVID-19 are recovering at home in self-isolation.

"Every health region in British Columbia has patients with COVID-19. Since the start of the pandemic, there have been 887 in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 1,223 in the Fraser Health region, 126 in the Island Health region, 183 in the Interior Health region and 60 in the Northern Health region.

"We are saddened to report three new COVID-19 related deaths, one in the Vancouver Coastal Health region and two in the Fraser Health region, for a total of 152 deaths in British Columbia. We offer our condolences to the family, friends and caregivers of these individuals, as well as to everyone who has lost their loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"There have been no new health-care outbreaks, and the outbreak at the Windermere Care Centre has now been declared over. In total, 14 long-term care or assisted-living facilities and three acute-care units have active outbreaks.

"The Mountain Institution, a federal corrections facility, has one confirmed case of COVID-19 in an inmate who had recently transferred from the Matsqui Institution. Fraser Health public health teams are investigating and assisting at both facilities.

"The outbreak at United Poultry has been declared over. Public health teams continue to provide support at the remaining community outbreaks, including at the Oppenheimer Group, those in the poultry sector, at the Mission Institution and with those connected to the Kearl Lake plant in Alberta.

"Our priority is the health and safety of British Columbians. Our personal circumstances are unique, but the actions we can take to protect each other and ourselves are the same.

"As we progress safely into Phase 2 of BC's Restart Plan, we can all learn from the many people

who have been working so hard to provide essential services, while keeping themselves and their households safe.

“One example is the use of non-medical masks or cloth face coverings. As we have seen on public transit or in a barbershop, a non-medical mask keeps our droplets in and provides an extra layer of protection for people around us when it is difficult to keep a safe physical distance or when services require people to be in close contact for periods of time.

“We must also continue to move slowly and with caution, and this is the approach that is being taken as child care centres reopen and schools resume some in-class learning.

“Schools have strict protocols for enhanced infection prevention and workplace health and safety. Safe physical distancing measures will be in place, and anyone who is ill will not be allowed into any school.

“Like all illnesses that can be transmitted through close contact, school communities are notified as part of active public health contact tracing when someone in the school community has a confirmed case. Any close contacts who are susceptible are also required to stay home and self-isolate.

“If you are unsure or have questions, contact your family physician or 811 to help determine the best steps for you and your family.

“The provincewide survey, Your story, our future, is an opportunity to share your personal experience with COVID-19 so far. Take a few minutes to join the 290,000 British Columbians who have already completed the survey, or help someone else to do the same.

“Let’s continue to move carefully forward with kindness and compassion, and let’s make sure we are working together to keep our curve flat.”

Learn More:

For the Your story, our future survey, visit: www.bccdc.ca/covid19survey

For those who cannot complete the survey online, or need assistance in another language, call 1 833 707-1900 to take the survey over the phone. Assistance is available seven days a week between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Pacific time), in 150 languages.

For more information about BC's Restart Plan, visit: www.gov.bc.ca/restartbc

For B.C.'s surgical renewal plan, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/conducting-health-research-evaluation/reports-publications>

For the slides presented at the May 4 media briefing, visit:

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

For mental health and anxiety support, visit: www.bouncebackbc.ca

Or: www.anxietycanada.com

For guidance and information on self-isolation and self-monitoring, including how to isolate if you live with others, visit:

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

For the provincial health officer's orders, notices and guidance,
visit: www.gov.bc.ca/phoguidance

For the latest medical updates, including case counts, prevention, risks and testing,
visit: <http://www.bccdc.ca/>
Or follow @CDCofBC on Twitter.

To learn where, when and how people with symptoms can be tested, visit:
<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing>

The COVID-19 self-assessment app, which includes details about where, when and how to be
tested, can be downloaded here: <https://bc.thrive.health/>

To learn more about Fair PharmaCare, including coverage, how to request an income review
and the monthly deductible payment option,
visit: https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/Register_for_Fair_PharmaCare.pdf

For non-health related information, including financial, child care and education supports,
travel, transportation and essential service information, visit: www.gov.bc.ca/covid19
Or call 1 888 COVID19 (1 888 268-4319) between 7:30 a.m. and 8 p.m. (Pacific time), seven
days a week.

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BCProvincialGovernment/

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

YouTube: www.youtube.com/ProvinceofBC

A backgrounder follows.

For a Chinese translation: http://news.gov.bc.ca/files/2020.05.21_New_ExistingCasesCOVID-19_Chinese.pdf

Contact:

Ministry of Health Communications
250 952-1887 (media line)

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

BACKGROUND

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Assisted living, long-term care homes, seniors' rental buildings with past or ongoing COVID-19 outbreaks

Vancouver Coastal Health:

- Amica Edgemont
- Berkley Care Centre long-term care facility
- Evergreen House long-term care facility
- Haro Park long-term care facility
- Royal Arch Masonic Home long-term care facility
- South Granville Park Lodge long-term care facility

Fraser Health:

- Chartwell Willow long-term care facility
- Clayton Heights long-term care facility
- Eden Care Centre long-term care facility
- Langley Lodge long-term care facility (second outbreak April 29)
- New Vista Care Home long-term care facility
- The Cedars in Mission assisted living facility
- Valhaven Home long-term care facility
- Worthington Pavilion

Outbreaks declared over:

- Amica Retirement Home long-term care facility
- Cedarbrook Chateau independent living
- Central City Lodge
- Delta View long-term care facility
- Dufferin Care Centre
- Evergreen Heights assisted living
- German Canadian House long-term care facility
- Guildford Seniors Village long-term care facility
- Hollyburn House long-term care facility
- Inglewood Lodge long-term care facility
- Kootenay Street Village long-term care facility
- Langley Gardens long-term care facility
- Langley Lodge long-term care facility (first outbreak declared over April 25)
- Little Mountain long-term care facility
- Lynn Valley long-term care facility
- MSA Manor long-term care facility

- Orchard Manor at Hawthorn Park long-term care facility
- Shaughnessy Care Centre long-term care facility
- Swedish Canadian Manor assisted living
- The Harrison at Elim Village long-term care facility
- Villa Cathay long-term care facility
- Windermere Care Centre long-term care facility

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