
JOINT STATEMENT

For Immediate Release
2020HLTH0068-002128
Dec. 21, 2020

Ministry of Health
Office of the Provincial Health Officer

Joint statement on B.C.'s COVID-19 response, latest updates

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

“Today, we are reporting on three 24-hour periods. From Dec. 18 to 19, we had 652 new cases. From Dec. 19 to 20, we had 486 new cases and in the last 24 hours, we have had a further 529 new cases.

“This represents a total of 1,667 new cases of COVID-19, including 14 epi-linked cases, for a total of 47,067 cases in British Columbia.

“There are 9,718 active cases of COVID-19 in the province. There are 341 individuals currently hospitalized with COVID-19, 80 of whom are in intensive care. The remaining people are recovering at home in self-isolation.

“Currently, 9,651 people are under active public health monitoring as a result of identified exposure to known cases and a further 35,455 people who tested positive have recovered.

“Since we last reported, we have had 283 new cases of COVID-19 in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 1,084 new cases in the Fraser Health region, 21 in the Island Health region, 189 in the Interior Health region, 90 in the Northern Health region and no new cases of people who reside outside of Canada.

“Last week, 3,644 front-line health-care workers received the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in British Columbia. Over the next two days, vaccine deliveries will arrive in every health region, and public health teams are readying clinics to begin in the coming days.

“There have been 41 new COVID-19 related deaths, for a total of 765 deaths in British Columbia. We offer our condolences to everyone who has lost their loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We have had five new health-care facility outbreaks at Fleetwood Villa, Nicola Lodge, The Mayfair Seniors Living, The Gardens at Qualicum Beach and Heritage Retirement Residence. The outbreaks at Bradley Centre, White Rock Seniors Village, Royal City Manor, Harrison Pointe and Agecare Harmony Court Estates are now over.

“There have been new community outbreaks at two Coastal GasLink worksites in 7 Mile Lodge in the Burns Lake Local Health Area and in Little Rock Lake Lodge in Nechako Local Health Area.

“We have to remember COVID-19 spreads quickly, but shows up slowly, and when it does

appear, it can cause serious and life-threatening illness.

“We are starting to see a levelling in the COVID-19 curve. At the same time, we are also seeing hundreds of new people each day with confirmed cases, many of whom have become severely ill, requiring care and treatment in hospital.

“The people getting sick today contracted the virus days ago, which is why the actions we take today make such a difference to our well-being tomorrow.

“Our health-care workers and front-line teams have been working non-stop to provide care to all those who need it and they are understandably in need of a reprieve.

“Today, on the longest night of the year, let’s do our part to give them the break they deserve. Let’s all share some light for our health-care workers and show them we care for them as much as they care for us.

“Together, let’s make this holiday season a safe season for all of us and do our part to make 2021 brighter, healthier and safer for everyone.”

Learn More:

For updated provincial health officer's (PHO) orders and new guidance:

For details on new restrictions, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/restrictions>

For updated PHO orders, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/current-health-topics/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

Find out where to get tested:

If you are experiencing symptoms, find a collection centre near you to get tested: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing>

For mental health, anxiety and other supports:

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

Or: www.anxietycanada.com

Or visit the BCCDC for further supports: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/about-covid-19/mental-well-being-during-covid-19>

For more information on overdoses, visit: <https://www.stopoverdose.gov.bc.ca>

People in BC experiencing violence can access VictimLink, a toll-free, confidential multilingual service available 24/7 by calling or texting 1 800 563-0808 or emailing: VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca

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.

COVID-19 exposure events, updates and information by health authority:

BCCDC (flights, work sites, etc.): <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/public-exposures>

Fraser Health: fraserhealth.ca/covid19exposure

Interior Health: <https://news.interiorhealth.ca/news/public-exposures/>

Island Health: <https://www.islandhealth.ca/learn-about-health/covid-19/outbreaks-and-exposures>

Northern Health: <https://www.northernhealth.ca/health-topics/outbreaks-and-exposures>

Vancouver Coastal: <http://www.vch.ca/covid-19/public-exposures>

For the latest medical updates, including case counts, prevention, risks and testing, visit: <http://www.bccdc.ca/>

Or follow @CDCofBC on Twitter.

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.

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 and acute-care facilities with ongoing COVID-19 outbreaks

Assisted-living, long-term care homes and seniors' rental buildings:

Vancouver Coastal Health – 15 facilities

- Arbutus Care Centre (second occurrence)
- Banfield Pavilion
- Capilano Care Centre
- Columbus Residence
- Crofton Manor
- Fraserview Intermediate Care Lodge
- German Canadian Benevolent Society Home (second occurrence)
- Little Mountain Place (second occurrence)
- Renfrew Care Centre
- Royal Arch Masonic Home (second occurrence)
- Sunrise of Vancouver
- St. Judes Anglican Home
- Three Links Care Centre
- Villa Carital
- Villa Cathay (second occurrence)

Fraser Health – 32 facilities

- Agassiz Seniors Community (second occurrence)
- Agecare Harmony Court Care Centre
- Al Hogg Pavilion (second occurrence)
- Amenida Seniors Community
- Baillie House (second occurrence)
- Belvedere Care Centre
- Care Life Fleetwood (second occurrence)
- Chartwell Langley Gardens (second occurrence)
- Chilliwack Lifestyles
- Courtyard Terrace
- Felburn Care Centre
- Finnish Manor
- Fleetwood Villa
- Fort Langley Seniors Community
- George Derby Centre (second occurrence)
- Good Samaritan Delta View Care Centre

- Hilton Villa Seniors Community
- Holyrood Manor
- Lakeshore Care Centre
- Laurel Place
- Menno Home
- Morgan Place Care
- Nicola Lodge (second occurrence)
- Northcrest Care Centre
- Peace Arch Hospital Foundation Lodge
- PICS Assisted Living (third occurrence)
- Queen's Park Care Centre
- St. Michael's Centre
- Tabor Home (second occurrence)
- The Harrison at Elim Village (third occurrence)
- The Mayfair Seniors Living & Care
- The Residence at Clayton Heights

Northern Health – three facilities

- Jubilee Lodge
- North Peace Seniors Housing Society
- Rotary Manor Dawson Creek

Interior Health – four facilities

- Heritage Retirement Residence
- McKinney Place
- Mountainview Village
- Village by the Station (second occurrence)

Island Health – one facility

- The Gardens at Qualicum Beach

Acute-care facilities:

- Burnaby Hospital
- Langley Memorial Hospital
- Lions Gate Hospital
- Richmond Hospital
- Saanich Peninsula Hospital
- Surrey Memorial Hospital

Contact:

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