

## COVID-19 UPDATE – May 27th, 2020

In an effort to keep our community partners connected, we are providing you with regular COVID-19 updates.

### Key Updates for May 27th, 2020

For a full list of updates from VCH visit [vch.ca](http://vch.ca)

- Update on COVID-19 Cases
- Occupancy rate at B.C. hospitals is up
- Personal Protective Equipment Update
- A few days left for the COVID-19 survey
- Hamilton Village Care Centre opens in Richmond

### Update on COVID-19 Cases

At yesterday's health briefing Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, reported 11 new cases of COVID-19 in B.C., bringing the total number of people who have tested positive to 2,541 since the pandemic began. Of those, 897 have been in the Vancouver Coastal Health region. The number of people in hospitals throughout B.C. sits at 37, including seven people in critical care, and 2,122 people are considered fully recovered. Dr. Henry also announced the outbreak at Richmond Hospital has been declared over. There are still 15 active outbreaks in long-term care, assisted living, and acute care throughout B.C. She also said she was grateful not to have to announce any new deaths today.

### Occupancy rate at B.C. hospitals

Health Minister Adrian Dix said the occupancy rate is up to about 69% in B.C. hospitals across the board, and around 50% in critical care, and yesterday 5,234 people visited emergency rooms across the province, which is one of the higher totals since March, which is a good sign that British Columbians are getting the care they need.

### Personal Protective Equipment Update

Minister Dix also reported on the status of personal protective equipment (PPE). Since the beginning of April, we've obtained more than 4,000,000 N-95 respirators; approximately 4,500,000 surgical masks; over 1,250,000 pieces of eye protection, including goggles and face shields; approximately 27,000,000 pairs of gloves; and more than 1,500,000 gowns. He said as always, any product received that isn't from a previous trusted vendor will be subject to assessment and testing before it gets into the health system. This includes masks and respirators received from the federal government, and from donations as well.

### A few days left for the BC COVID-19 survey

Dr. Henry said there are a few more days left in the survey to gather feedback about residents' experiences of the past few weeks and help direct our responses going forward. More than 321,000 people have participated in Your Story, Our Future study, but there is a need for feedback from people in smaller communities and elderly people. The survey is intended to gather information about how COVID-19 has impacted health and well-being, and to help guide the response in the months to come. The [BC COVID-19 survey: your story, our future](#) is available online in English and simplified Chinese. At the end of the survey, participants are asked about their interest in taking part in two future initiatives: A serology survey (blood testing) to help determine immunity across the population, and planning for digital tools to help identify and manage COVID-19 infections.

### Hamilton Village Care Centre opens

Richmond is now home to 135 new long-term care spaces for seniors, as Hamilton Village Care Centre carefully welcomes its first few residents this month. First announced in 2016, the three-story, wood-frame residence on the Hamilton Lands in east Richmond is part of a larger 10-year rejuvenation strategy for long-term care across Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH). The care centre was built and will be operated by Trellis Seniors Services Ltd., and all 135 beds will be publicly funded. The expansion of long-term care in Richmond is an important step in meeting the care needs of residents who can no longer live safely at home with support. In accordance with Public Health, and with infection prevention and control measures introduced throughout the province in March, residents have been moving in slowly, no more than two per day, to support safe transitions and admissions. The new residents are arriving from acute care, from other non-outbreak long-term care facilities, as well as those from the community who have significant safety risks at home. They are initially quarantined for 14 days and continually screened for symptoms of COVID-19.

### Key Messages to Share

- Practice [physical distancing](#) if you have to go out
- If you think you have COVID-19 take the self-assessment here: [covid19.thrive.health](http://covid19.thrive.health)
- Self-isolate at home for 10 days if you have COVID-19 symptoms
- Find helpful posters, handouts and other resources about COVID-19 [here](#).