

COVID-19 UPDATE – August 7th, 2020

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

Key Updates for August 7th, 2020

For a full list of updates from VCH visit vch.ca/COVID19

- Update on COVID-19 Cases
- Moving forward safely
- Transforming primary care on the North Shore

Update on COVID-19 Cases

In yesterday's briefing, Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, and Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, reported 47 new cases in BC including 1 epi-linked case for a total of 3,881 cases in B.C. Of those, 1,143 have been in the Vancouver Coastal Health region. There are 11 people in hospital in B.C., including five in critical care, and 3,315 people have fully recovered. There are two new outbreaks in long-term care in VCH, at Richmond Lions Manor and at the Joseph & Rosalie Segal Family Health Centre. There is a total of five active outbreaks in health-care facilities: four in long-term care or assisted living, and one in acute care. There have been no new community outbreaks, but a number of exposure events, including one at Lions Bay Beach Park on July 26, 27, 29, 30 and 31. Because of exposure events around the province, including those in Kelowna, 1,518 people who have had close contact with a person who has COVID, are now in isolation and being monitored by public health.

Moving forward safely

Dr. Henry said we know the virus will be in our communities for many months to come, so we have adapted our activities, put layers of protection in place and safely restarted our province. This is evidenced by the thousands of businesses that have developed COVID-19 safety plans, reopened and carefully increased the interactions among employees and customers. We have seen this in health-care facilities and services, in restaurants, child care and in our schools in June. British Columbians have shown that they know the precautions to take to keep themselves, their children and families safe. When faced with setbacks, we regroup, come together, learn and adapt our approach. We keep moving forward with the full resources and support of public health teams throughout this province. When new cases emerge, no matter where they may be, public health teams immediately mobilize to identify the source of transmission, notify contacts and contain the spread. COVID-19 is going to be with us for some time to come. We need to keep transmission low and slow. Minister Dix reminded British Columbians this is not the time to be hosting or going to parties. Large private parties come with huge public consequences. To those holding large gatherings: that's enough now.

Transforming primary care on the North Shore

On Wednesday, Minister Dix announced the Ministry of Health is establishing three networks of team-based primary care providers on the North Shore, which will bring additional resources and strengthened support to the region. Over the next four years, residents will benefit from an additional 62 full-time equivalent health-care providers who will provide better access to primary care. This includes 17 family physicians, one new nurse practitioner and 44 additional health-care professionals across three primary care networks. Read the full news release [here](#).

For more information and latest updates on COVID-19, follow the BC Centre for Disease Control on Twitter @CDCofBC or visit the website: <http://www.bccdc.ca/>.

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
- Anyone in the VCH region with cold, influenza or COVID-19-like symptoms, however mild, can now be assessed for and get a COVID-19 test <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing>
- Self-isolate at home for 10 days if you have COVID-19 symptoms
- Find helpful posters, handouts and other resources about COVID-19 [here](#).