

## LATEST UPDATE – November 13th, 2020

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

### Ministry of Health Update

In yesterday's Ministry of Health briefing, Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer, reported 1,130 new cases of COVID-19 over the past two days, for a total of 20,368 cases in B.C. since the pandemic began. There were 249 new cases in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) region. Currently, 155 individuals are hospitalized with COVID-19, 44 of whom are in intensive care. The remaining people are recovering at home in self-isolation. There were four new deaths, bringing our total number to 288. VCH Assisted living, long-term care homes and seniors' rental buildings with ongoing COVID-19 outbreaks are:

- Capilano Care Centre
- Pinegrove Place (first floor)
- Louis Brier Home & Hospital
- Banfield Pavilion (fourth floor)
- Royal Arch Masonic Home
- Haro Park Centre (third floor, special care unit)
- Three Links Care Centre.

### Epidemiological Modelling

Dr. Henry presented epidemiological modelling for British Columbia yesterday, highlighting that cases are at a record high across the province – but especially in Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health. The majority of transmissions are from social gatherings in homes or at work.

Nine out of 10 schools across B.C. have not had an exposure event, which is positive news. Schools are not a major source of transmission, and children under 10 continue to be underrepresented in terms of COVID-19 diagnosis despite increased testing.

The number of COVID-19 tests performed is up by 7% from last week, and the number of positive tests has risen to 5.4%. Dr. Henry is optimistic the new public health orders implemented will begin to show a decrease in cases by next week.

We are in a very challenging time of the pandemic – perhaps the most challenging time – but we need to find ways to live with it and protect our seniors and elders until we have the vaccine in 2021.

### Open Board Forum

The VCH Board of Directors invites you to our virtual Open Board Forum at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. This meeting is dedicated to our communities in Sea to Sky, Sunshine Coast, Powell River and the Central Coast including Bella Coola and Bella Bella. This is the Open Board Meeting that was postponed in light of the recent provincial election. Open to the public, the virtual Open Board Forum is an opportunity to join a conversation with our Board and for us to hear from you. The Board Chair and senior leaders will provide updates on COVID-19 as - more than ever – we want to stay connected to our communities in the Coastal region. To register and to send questions in advance, please email [ce@vch.ca](mailto:ce@vch.ca)

We hope you are able to attend, and please forward this invitation to those who might be interested. The details are attached.

### VCH Website and Translation Engagement

VCH is starting two important projects – the redesign of the VCH website and review of VCH translation practices. Your input in the web design project and the translation needs at VCH for safe care will help us improve our translation tools and ensure our future website is a user-friendly resource that is easy to navigate. We are hosting Zoom focus groups to hear from diverse communities we serve. To register for any of the focus group times and dates (see the attached poster), please email [ce@vch.ca](mailto:ce@vch.ca).

### Testing

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. Contact your physician or nurse practitioner's office, or a local community

collection centre to arrange for a test. Phone numbers and locations of collection centres can be found by visiting: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing> or by calling 8-1-1. 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/>.

#### **Other Resources**

To find the Provincial Health Officer's 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>

To see a map of COVID-19 cases by local health area, visit:

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

For a listing of the community exposure events, go to: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/public-exposures>

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

For community engagement opportunities at VCH, see: <http://cean.vch.ca/members/current-opportunities/>