

LATEST UPDATE – November 5th, 2020

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

Ministry of Health Update

In today's Ministry of Health briefing, Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer, reported 425 new cases of COVID-19, for a total of 16,560 cases in B.C. since the pandemic began. Of those, 5,223 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) region. Currently, 97 individuals are hospitalized with COVID-19, 24 of whom are in intensive care. The remaining people are recovering at home in self-isolation. There were no new deaths, keeping the total number at 273. VCH Assisted living, long-term care homes and seniors' rental buildings with ongoing COVID-19 outbreaks are:

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

Dr. Bonnie Henry Briefing

There were a record number of cases today, the majority continuing to be in Fraser Health and also Vancouver Coastal Health. In the last 24 hours, 11,020 tests were done in labs around the province, bringing the percent positive rate to 3.8% (this is up a percent compared to last month).

“As cases rise, our greatest impact will be made through the small actions we take each day. Now, fewer faces make for safer spaces. By staying small, we can protect our well-being. We need everyone to help slow the spread of the virus by staying local, only spending time with our household or at most, our safe six and by following the safety basics – at work, at school and at home. The foundational layers of protection and province-wide orders in place throughout B.C. are our steady guideposts to help chart our path forward.

“If you need some encouragement, look to the many children and teens who have quickly adapted to the protective measures in schools. They have learned how to safely play sports and were also able to dress up and have fun while still being careful last weekend. Let's remember as the days get darker, there is lightness ahead. We will get through the challenges of COVID-19 by all of us doing our part, while staying apart.”

On Thursday November 12, Dr. Henry will present the latest modelling data which will offer a snapshot of BC's COVID-19 projections for the months ahead. She also announced BCCDC's new epidemiological dashboard which will be publically available, offering both cases and testing data across different locations.

Open Board Forum

The VCH Board of Directors invites you to our virtual Open Board Forum at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, November 30th. 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 We hope you are able to attend, and please forward this invitation to those who might be interested. The details are attached.

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/>