

LATEST UPDATE – May 18, 2021

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 joint statement on B.C.'s COVID-19 response, Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer, and Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, reported 1,360 new cases over the weekend reporting period. Of the new cases, 291 people were in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) region.

The total number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 in B.C. now stands at 139,664 since the start of the pandemic. There are 5,021 active cases of COVID-19 across B.C. currently.

Across the province, there were 14 new COVID-19 related deaths, while 350 people are currently hospitalized, with 132 of these cases receiving treatment in ICU/critical care. The total number of individuals who have passed away due to COVID-19 is 1,648.

Dr. Henry addressed the upcoming long weekend noting it as the unofficial kickoff to summer, and that many people are looking forward to this summer being different. But she cautioned B.C. is not ready to make any changes to the current provincial health orders this week. This long weekend it is important for all of us stay the course. That means staying local, staying small and remembering to use all of the protective measures, even as more people are immunized.

There are still 400 to 500 people a day testing positive for COVID-19. That reminds us that the virus continues to circulate and we have to do all we can to stop those transmissions as we're all developing this protection. We can't be travelling, and we can't have large gatherings this weekend.

COVID-19 vaccine update

Since the start of immunizations, 2,528,398 doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered in B.C., 130,023 of which are second doses. This means more than 55 per cent of adults 18 years and older in BC have received their first dose.

Everyone aged 18 years and older can now book their COVID-19 vaccine appointment. The focus of the B.C. COVID-19 response is to get all eligible people in British Columbia vaccinated as soon as possible. To do this, we need everyone to get [registered](#). If you've received your first dose earlier this year, but did not register, you should still do so to be sent a booking link for your second dose when you are eligible.

In the coming week, B.C. expects to receive 276,120 doses of Pfizer and 142,500 doses of Moderna, which is another significant amount of vaccine coming to the province.

Minister Dix noted 86 per cent of those over the age of 70, 82 per cent of those over the age of 60, 77 per cent of those over the age of 50 and 70 per cent of those over the age of 40 have received their vaccine.

For all of those who received their first dose of AstraZeneca, you will have the option of receiving your second dose of AstraZeneca. The remaining stock of AstraZeneca is here in B.C. and is good until the end of June.

There will be more information available in the next few weeks about AstraZeneca second doses.

Updated information on who should get a COVID-19 vaccine can be found [here](#) and there is more information about vaccine aftercare [here](#). More information and immunization data is available through this page: [BCCDC](#).

VCH high-transmission neighbourhood residents 18 years and older eligible for vaccine

As part of the B.C. COVID-19 Immunization Plan for priority neighbourhoods, Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) will offer targeted vaccinations to people who reside in the [high-transmission neighbourhoods](#) of Cedar Cottage, Grandview Woodland, Hastings Sunrise, Kensington, Killarney, Renfrew-Collingwood, Sunset and Victoria Fraserview. Residents of these neighbourhoods who are 18 years and older are encouraged to [register](#) to receive a link to book their vaccination appointment.

VCH has opened a COVID-19 vaccine clinic at [Killarney Community Centre](#) (6260 Killarney Street). The clinic will open again May 17 to 21 and 25 to 28 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Vaccinations will be provided by appointment only.

VCH is also offering Pfizer or Moderna vaccinations by appointment-only at a new vaccination clinic at H.J. Cambie Secondary School, located at 4151 Jacombs Road in Richmond. The clinic will be open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on various dates between May 20 – June 5.

Appointments for residents 18 and over (born in 2003 or earlier) are available through the provincial online platform or call centre after residents register for a COVID-19 vaccine at www.gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated.

People born in 2003 or earlier (18+) and people born in 2005 or earlier (16+) who are clinically extremely vulnerable or pregnant are currently being invited to book an appointment to be vaccinated as part of B.C.'s Immunization Plan.

All B.C. residents 18 years of age and older (born in 2003 or earlier) are encouraged to register now through the provincial [Get Vaccinated](http://www.gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated) website, call centre (1-833-838-2323) or in person at a [Service B.C. office](#). Translation services are available through the call centre.

Following registration, residents will be notified by phone, email or text message as soon as they are eligible to book a vaccine appointment. VCH encourages family, friends, neighbours and social services agencies to help get the word out to adults 18+ about registering to receive their COVID-19 vaccine.

VCH Open Board Meeting – Save the date

Vancouver Coastal Health's Board of Directors and senior leadership team invite you to our virtual Open Board Forum. This meeting is dedicated to the residents of the Killarney neighbourhood, but open to all.

Our virtual Open Board Forum is an opportunity to join a conversation with our board. The board chair and senior leaders will provide updates on COVID-19, the vaccine roll-out and available health services.

The meeting will stream online and we invite you to register and send questions in advance at vch.ca/boardforum. We will send you a link to the Open Board Forum video stream before the meeting.

Resource toolkit:

- **Vaccine safety information:**

[\[English\]](#) | [\[简体中文 Chinese Simplified\]](#) | [\[繁體中文 Chinese Traditional\]](#) | [\[한국어 Korean\]](#) | [\[ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Punjabi\]](#) | [\[Tagalog\]](#)

- **Aftercare information:**

[\[English\]](#) | [\[العربية Arabic\]](#) | [\[American Sign Language - ASL\]](#) | [\[简体中文 Chinese Simplified\]](#) | [\[繁體中文 Chinese Traditional\]](#) | [\[فارسی Farsi\]](#) | [\[Français French\]](#) | [\[한국어 Korean\]](#) | [\[ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Punjabi\]](#) | [\[Español Spanish\]](#) | [\[Tigrinya\]](#) | [\[Tiếng Việt Vietnamese\]](#)

- **VCH website information and Questions & Answers:**

[\[English\]](#) | [\[العربية Arabic\]](#) | [\[American Sign Language - ASL\]](#) | [\[简体中文 Chinese Simplified\]](#) | [\[繁體中文 Chinese Traditional\]](#) | [\[فارسی Farsi\]](#) | [\[Français French\]](#) | [\[한국어 Korean\]](#) | [\[ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Punjabi\]](#) | [\[Español Spanish\]](#) | [\[Tagalog\]](#) | [\[Tiếng Việt Vietnamese\]](#)

- **COVID-19 vaccine information sessions hosted by S.U.C.C.E.S.S. and VCH (Cantonese and Mandarin)**
[\[Cantonese\]](#) | [\[Mandarin\]](#)

- **COVID-19 vaccine Q&A with Dr. Ray Chaboyer**
[\[English\]](#)

- **COVID-19 vaccine info session by VCH Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. Patricia Daly**
[\[English\]](#)

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

Find the Provincial Health Officer's orders [here](#).

To see a map of **COVID-19 cases by local health area**, [visit here](#).

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

For **community engagement opportunities** at VCH, see: <https://engage.vch.ca/>