

# COVID-19

## REGIONAL SNAPSHOT

APRIL 1, 2020

### LOCAL UPDATES

- Local businesses and industry wanting to donate or supply medical supplies, non-medical products or other essential supplies is encouraged to use the new COVID-19 Supply hub at: [www.gov.bc.ca/supplyhub](http://www.gov.bc.ca/supplyhub)



### NEW PROVINCIAL UPDATES

- Almost 57% of people with confirmed cases of COVID-19 have now recovered.
- The Province has completed most of the ethics frameworks around the health response efforts to COVID-19 and have posted them on the gov.bc.ca website.
- The Province has partnered with the Digital Technology Supercluster and Business Council of BC to create the **COVID-19 Supply Hub**. This online platform is a single point of entry to triage and prioritize the thousands of offers and donations for essential supplies from business and other organizations since the onset of the COVID-19 response.
- The Hub will make the types and specifications of critical supplies needed publicly available. The initial focus is on sourcing supplies for the health-care system and front-line workers, though government is also accepting offers for other essentials, like cleaning supplies.
- BC Hydro will be offering relief on power bills for residential customers who've lost their jobs or are unable to work as a result of COVID-19 via a credit that does not have to be repaid. Small businesses that have been forced to close due to COVID-19 will have power bills forgiven for three months (April-June). Major industries will have the opportunity to defer 50% of their bills for three months.
- New guidelines have been issued today to support municipal bylaw officers and other compliance officers and provide give clear instruction on warnings, public education and fines – including what can be issued by whom – to make sure there is compliance with the Public Health Officer's orders and, if necessary, are enforced.
- Additional support for the sport sector was announced today. The Province, through viaSport, will provide provincial, disability and multi-sport organizations with the ability to access \$5 million, which represents 50% of their annual 2020-21 provincial funding allocation, to provide these organizations with access to cashflow sooner.



#### Links:

- Link to COVID-19 Update:** <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020EMBC0020-000619>
- COVID-19 Supply Hub News Release:** <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PSSG0023-000609>
- Power Bill Relief Announcement:** <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PREM0018-000611>
- Link to new Compliance Guidelines:** <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020EMBC0018-000617>

### Current Situation in BC

(as of 4pm PST April 1, 2020)

#### Cases:

- Total confirmed cases in BC: 1,066
- New cases since March 31: 53
- Hospitalized cases: 142
- Intensive Care: 67
- COVID-19 Related Deaths: 25
- Recovered: 606

#### Confirmed cases by region:

- Vancouver Coastal Health: 497
- Fraser Health: 367
- Island Health: 72
- Interior Health: 114
- Northern Health: 16

**Link to full news release:** <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0018-000614>

### FOCUS ON LOCAL BUSINESS

While many businesses have had to temporarily close, others are able to stay open with alternate methods of delivery. We've included a few links below and encourage you to check out the local resources in your area to find a list of locations that can help provide food or delivery service (or other services).



- Fernie:** <https://tourismfernie.com/news/coronavirus-covid-19>
- Cranbrook:** <https://cranbrooktourism.com/about/emergency-resources>
- Closed But Open!** - an online hub for East Kootenay shops offering safe options to get you what you need: <https://closedbutopen.com/>

When we are through this critical time, and businesses can begin reopening, we will all have a role to play in helping support our local businesses.

There are several task forces and working groups currently working on business resiliency and recovery plans to help prepare for that next phase.

**To receive the Regional Snapshot directly to your inbox, sign up for the email updates here:**  
<https://www.rdek.bc.ca/about/email-group-sign-up>



## NEW FEDERAL UPDATES

- Across Canada as of the afternoon of April 1, there are a total of 9,613 cases and over 241,000 tests completed.
- A new link has been added to the Canada.ca website to show the epidemic curve of COVID-19 in Canada. You can see cases over time, demographics and more. The link is below.
- A new CanadaCovid19 app has been unveiled. The Canadian app links with the BC app and provides statistics, updates and resources.
- The Federal Government provided additional information today on the Canada Emergency Response Benefit. For information on how to apply, eligibility, and to submit an application, type [Canada.ca/coronavirus-CERB](https://www.canada.ca/coronavirus-CERB) into your browser.
- The new application portal will begin accepting applications on April 6. Prior to April 6, individuals who are without work and are eligible for EI can continue to apply for Employment Insurance.
- If you receive the recently announced 75% wage subsidy, you cannot receive the Canada Emergency Response Benefit.
- Today, Finance Minister Bill Morneau, the Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade, Mary Ng, and the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, Navdeep Bains, announced more details of the proposed Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy.
- Prime Minister Trudeau is looking to recall Parliament to pass legislation for the recent relief measures as the cost and scope have expanded.
- **Link to Canadian Epidemic Curve Page:** <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/health-professionals/epidemiological-summary-covid-19-cases.html>
- **Link to Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy Fact Sheet/Backgrounder:** <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/04/the-canada-emergency-wage-subsidy.html>
- **Link to Canada Emergency Response Benefit Launch (April 6):** <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/04/canada-emergency-response-benefit-to-launch-on-april-6.html>

## NEED HELP OR WANT TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP OTHERS?

If you need help with pick up of groceries, prescriptions or other essentials, OR if you are a volunteer willing to help others in need, there are a number of grassroots initiatives popping up. Here are a few:

- **Seniors:** call 211 or visit: <http://www.bc211.ca>
- **Elk Valley:** <https://www.evcst.com>
- **Sparwood:** <https://sparwood.ca/blog/News/2020-03-24-EmergencyPrepVolunteerRegistry>
- **Columbia Valley:** <https://volunteercv.ca/organizations/columbia-valley-covid-19-community-response>
- **Cranbrook Area (Facebook):** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/239248060594167>

## AROUND THE WORLD

The World Health Organization has been tracking the cases of COVID-19 around the world. There are currently 205 countries, areas or territories with cases.

Visit: <https://www.who.int> and click on the situation dashboard to get the global perspective.

## Phone Numbers:

- **1-888-COVID19 (1-888-268-4319).** The line is for non-health COVID-19 information. It's open seven days a week, from 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. MST
- **811** - dial 811 for health related information on COVID-19
- **211** - seniors looking for help (or volunteers willing to help), can call 211 or visit: <http://www.bc211.ca>
- **Crisis Line: 1.888.353.2273** - free, anonymous support
- **Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868**

## Online Links:

- **COVID-19 Self Assessment Tool & App** - use this online tool to complete a self-assessment & get updates.
- **BC Centre for Disease Control** - includes information on their testing protocols.
- **Interior Health** - links to the latest Interior Health information.
- **Government of Canada** - statistics, travel info and economic and financial supports available federally.
- **Province of BC Information Hub** - links to Provincial supports for non-health information (childcare, travel, employee/employer resources, business support)