

NEW PROVINCIAL UPDATES



- There are 335 active cases in BC, including in all health authorities. Of the 47 in hospital, one is in Interior Health.
- There are no new community outbreaks to report.
- To date, over 260,000 people have taken the COVID-19 survey - and the Province is hoping to hear from more seniors, residents in rural parts of BC (outside the large centres), and people with different cultural backgrounds. See survey link below (in yellow).
- The COVID-19 survey links to a secure site, even though the landing page says it is not a secure site. The Province is urging as many people as possible to participate.
- Phase 2 begins tomorrow and will be gradual as businesses and different sectors continue to receive needed guidance and determine the steps needed to reopen (or whether they can reopen at this time).
- For people experiencing family or intimate-partner violence, support is available 24/7 through VictimLinkBC at 1 800 563-0808.
- Youth feeling overwhelmed or anxious are encouraged to contact the Kids Help Phone at 1 800 668-6868 for support if needed.

Links:

- **COVID-19 Update:** <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0161-000904>

NEW FEDERAL UPDATES

- As of Monday, May 18, there are 77,306 COVID-19 cases, including 5,805 deaths. More than 38,828 or 50 per cent of cases are now recovered.
- Labs across Canada have tested 1,319,000 people for COVID-19 to date, with about 5 per cent of these testing positive. We are now testing an average of 26,000 to 28,000 people daily.
- Prime Minister Trudeau has announced up to \$100 million in funding to help the Red Cross meet increased demand due to COVID-19, and to support future floods and wildfire relief efforts, including up to \$41 million to address immediate COVID-19 needs, with over \$15 million committed to enhance the Red Cross' response capacity and \$25 million to support public health efforts.
- The Canada Child Benefit will be increased again in July. This additional tax-free support will be in place for the 2020-21 benefit year, and will raise the maximum benefit to \$6,765 per child under age 6, and \$5,708 per child aged 6 through 17. This increase is in addition to the one-time special CCB payment announced by the Prime Minister earlier this month.

Links:

- **Dr. Tam Statement:** <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2020/05/statement-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-of-canada-on-covid-19.html>
- **Funding for Red Cross:** <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/16/prime-minister-announces-support-canadian-red-cross>
- **Canada Child Benefit Annual Increase:** <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/16/prime-minister-announces-annual-increase-canada-child-benefit>

BC COVID-19 SURVEY

If you haven't yet taken the BC COVID-19 Survey, the Province wants to hear from you. **The survey will be open until May 31.**

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

Note: The survey takes 10-15 minutes to fill out and IS a secure site.



Current Situation in BC

(as of 3:00pm PDT May 18, 2020)

Cases:

- Total confirmed cases in BC (since January): 2,444
- New cases since Saturday, May 16: 16
- Hospitalized cases: 47
- Intensive Care: 12
- COVID-19 related deaths: 143
- Recovered: 1,966
- Long term care/assisted living homes affected: 14
- Acute-care unit outbreaks: 5

Confirmed cases by region:

- Vancouver Coastal Health: 882
- Fraser Health: 1,195
- Island Health: 126 ****No new**
- Interior Health: 181 ****No new**
- Northern Health: 60

News release:

- <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0161-000904>

RESOURCES

Link to BC Restart Plan:

- <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/bc-restart-plan>

Phone Numbers:

- **1-888-268-4319** - Non-health COVID-19 info
- **811** - dial 811 for COVID & non-COVID health info
- **211** - seniors looking for help (or volunteers willing to help) or visit: <http://www.bc211.ca/>
- **Crisis Line: 1.888.353.2273**
- **Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868**

Online Links:

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