

NEW PROVINCIAL UPDATES

- There are 225 active cases of COVID-19 in BC.
- 191 of the 195 people in Interior Health (IH) who've tested positive have now recovered.
- MLAs Katrine Conroy and Doug Clovechok hosted a virtual Town Hall meeting tonight. IH CEO Susan Brown and Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. Sue Pollock answered questions about COVID-19 in BC. To view it on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/MX08FzTuAZg>
- Today was the restart of significant Phase 2 activities. K-12 schools have reopened to in-class learning, transit systems are fully operational and some provincial parks are open to overnight camping for BC residents.
- Transit systems are charging fares are once again and users are encouraged to wear a non-medical mask as physical distancing is more challenging on transit.
- Over 8,500 British Columbians are volunteering to help isolated seniors in their communities during the pandemic. A big thank you to the United Way, bc211, B.C.'s seniors advocate Isobel Mackenzie and members of the all-party COVID-19 Seniors Working Group for their partnership in supporting seniors.
- The physical distancing and personal responsibility measures (washing hands, avoiding large groups, staying home when ill) are still critically important. Everyone is asked to continue to think about "few faces and big spaces."



Links:

- COVID-19 Update: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0175-000997>
- BC Celebrates Senior's Week: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PREM0029-000979>

FLOOD WATCH ISSUED FOR EAST KOOTENAY

The BC River Forecast Centre has issued a Flood Watch for the East Kootenay. While some waterways have peaked after Sunday's storm, streams and rivers may still see rises for the next few days and will be susceptible in the event of rainfall.

Residents are urged to sign up for the Evacuation Notification System (ENS) to be notified of evacuation alerts or orders by phone (cell or landline) or text. It's free and easy to sign up for the ENS system (you just have to make sure to enter at least one East Kootenay address in order to complete the sign up process). To learn more, visit: https://www.rdek.bc.ca/departments/emergencyservices/emergencyinfo/evacuation_notification_system/.

Note: Email notifications are provided via the RDEK's email groups. If you haven't signed up, visit www.rdek.bc.ca and click on "Sign Up for Community Updates" link.

Link to BC Restart Plan:

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

Important Phone Numbers:

- **1-888-COVID19 (1-888-268-4319)**. The line is for non-health COVID-19 information.
- **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**
- **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

Current Situation in BC

(as of 3:00pm PDT June 1, 2020)

Cases:

- Total confirmed cases in BC (since January): 2,597
- New cases since Saturday, May 30: 24
- Hospitalized cases: 32
- Intensive Care: 5
- COVID-19 related deaths: 165
- Recovered: 2,207
- Long term care/assisted living homes affected: 12
- Acute-care unit outbreaks: 1

Confirmed cases by region:

- Vancouver Coastal Health: 904
- Fraser Health: 1,307
- Island Health: 127 (no new)
- Interior Health: 195 (no new)
- Northern Health: 64

News release:

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0175-000997>

A REMINDER ABOUT TESTING

Anyone with COVID-19 like symptoms, even if they are mild, can be tested. The symptoms of COVID-19 are similar to other respiratory illnesses including the flu and common cold. Contact your family doctor if you are experiencing symptoms. Testing is also available at testing centres in Cranbrook, Sparwood, and Golden: <https://news.interiorhealth.ca/news/testing-information/>.

NEW FEDERAL UPDATES

- Prime Minister Trudeau announced accelerated funding delivered through the federal Gas Tax Fund this year. \$2.2 billion in annual federal infrastructure funding for communities will be delivered in one payment in June.
- Up to \$6.4 million in funding over three years has been announced for the social and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities. 16 organizations through the disability component of the Social Development Partnerships Program (SDPP-D) will have access to the funding.
- The Government of Canada will provide rent relief for eligible business tenants in all national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas. Parks Canada will be notifying eligible tenants.

Links:

- **Changes to Gas Tax:** <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/06/01/prime-minister-announces-support-help-communities-create-jobs-and>
- **Links to Other Federal Announcements Today:** <https://www.canada.ca/en/news.html>