Daily Update – April 28, 2020

At today's Ministry of Health briefing, Dr. Bonnie Henry announced 55 new cases of COVID-19 in British Columbia, bringing the total to date to 2,053 confirmed cases; 803 have been in Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH). Currently 94 people are hospitalized throughout the province as a result of the virus, with 37 patients in critical care, and 1,231 people are fully recovered. There are still 20 long-term care and assisted living residences under outbreak protocol, and three outbreaks in acute care units. We have one additional death in VCH - our hearts go out to their friends and family.

Earlier today VCH released our Inner-City COVID-19 Response Strategy document, to reduce the impacts of the opioid overdose and COVID-19 public health emergencies for people living in Vancouver's inner-city communities, including the Downtown Eastside (DTES). The strategy document can be viewed here. As a reminder, our website has the latest information around what we're doing as part of our overarching response to the COVID-19 pandemic at vch.ca.

VCH Medical Health Officers, our provincial partners and the Public Health Agency of Canada continue to actively monitor the COVID-19 pandemic. To protect yourself while out in public, wash your hands frequently and maintain social distance.

Anyone with cold, influenza or COVID-like symptoms can now be assessed and get a COVID-19 test from a physician, nurse practitioner or an urgent and primary care centre. You can also call 8-1-1 to find a testing centre near you or visit http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing. If you think you need testing, please call ahead before visiting your GP, NP or health clinic.

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/.