

Daily Update – April 7, 2020

At today’s daily briefing, Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry and Health Minister Adrian Dix looked forward to the Easter Weekend, and reminded the public to come together and connect virtually rather than in person. Efforts to flatten the curve seem to be working but still require 100 per cent cooperation by all.

Dr. Henry announced 25 new cases of COVID-19 in B.C., bringing the total to date to 1,291 confirmed cases. Currently 138 people are hospitalized throughout the province as a result of the virus, with 66 patients in critical care, and 805 people fully recovered. In the Vancouver Coastal Health region, there have been 603 confirmed cases since the pandemic began. Outbreaks in long-term care facilities are an ongoing concern. Sadly, three more people have died in the VCH region; our thoughts are with their families and those who cared for them.

Earlier today, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said the federal government is teaming up with partners in the private sector to produce up to 30,000 new ventilators for COVID-19 patients across Canada.

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.

We strongly urge anyone who has symptoms — including a fever, cough, sneezing, sore throat, or difficulty breathing — to self-isolate for 10 days. Testing is available for people with respiratory symptoms who are hospitalized or likely to be hospitalized, including pregnant women in their third trimester; health-care workers; residents of long-term care facilities; or part of an investigation of a cluster or outbreak. A self-assessment tool, developed with the BC Ministry of Health, will help determine whether you may need further assessment or testing for COVID-19. Find it at covid19.thrive.health, or download a self-assessment app for smartphones.

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/>

