Daily Update – June 1, 2020

Ministry of Health update

In today's daily briefing, Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, reported 24 new cases of COVID-19 in B.C. since Saturday, bringing the total number of people who have tested positive to 2,597 since the pandemic began. Of those, 904 have been in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) region. The number of people in hospitals throughout B.C. sits at 32, including five people in critical care, and 2,207 people are considered fully recovered. There are still 13 active outbreaks in long-term care, assisted living, and acute care throughout B.C.

Dr. Henry reminded British Columbians that the provincial health order that bans gatherings of more than 50 people is still in place, and those who attended the demonstration in downtown Vancouver should monitor themselves for symptoms of COVID-19, and if they have symptoms, get tested. While it's important to stand up and have our voices heard, we must do it in a safe manner; Chanting and yelling in close contact with others is risky behaviour.

Dr. Henry and Minister Dix also pointed out that this is B.C. Seniors Week. They said more than 8,500 British Columbians are volunteering their time to help isolated seniors in their neighbourhoods and communities during the COVID-19 pandemic through groups like 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 this initiative. They asked that we take the time this week to honour our seniors by doing all we can to care for and protect them.

Anyone in the VCH region with cold, influenza or COVID-19-like symptoms, however mild, can now be assessed for and get a COVID-19 test. Contact your physician or nurse practitioner's office, or a local community collection centre to arrange for a test. Phone numbers and locations of collection centre can be found by visiting: http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing or by calling 8-1-1. In Vancouver, the City Centre and REACH urgent and primary care centres can provide testing as well as the St. Vincent's drive-up location at 4875 Heather Street. On the North Shore, testing is available at the North Vancouver Urgent and Primary Care Centre. If you think you need testing, please call ahead before visiting your doctor, urgent and primary care center or health clinic.

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. For more information on COVID-19, please visit http://www.vch.ca/covid-19.

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/.