Daily Update – June 10, 2020

Ministry of Health update

In a joint statement, Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, and Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, reported 12 new cases of COVID-19 in B.C., bringing the total number of people who have tested positive to 2,680 since the pandemic began. Of those, 911 have been in the Vancouver Coastal Health region. There are 185 active cases of COVID-19 in the province and 2,328 people who tested positive have recovered. The number of people in hospitals throughout B.C. is 12, including four people in critical care. There has been one new outbreak at Holy Family Hospital, a long-term care facility in Vancouver. In total, five long-term care or assisted-living facilities continue to have active outbreaks.

Community clusters

In the statement, Dr. Henry said through surveillance and testing public health teams have identified two community clusters of COVID-19 associated with large family connections. While our overall provincial cases may be low, this tells us that COVID-19 is still active and spreading in our communities, and it is still important to stick with smaller social connections. Health-care workers and those who travel are reminded to continue to limit social interactions so they don’t spread the risk around.

Provincial state of emergency extended

Earlier today the B.C. government formally extended the provincial state of emergency, allowing Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, to continue to use extraordinary powers under the Emergency Program Act to support the Province’s COVID-19 pandemic response. The state of emergency is extended through the end of the day on June 23, 2020, allowing government to continue to take necessary steps to keep British Columbians safe. Actions taken under the state of emergency support businesses, industries and families in B.C.

Testing

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. In Richmond, the Richmond Assessment Centre is located at 6820 Gilbert Road, in the parking lot of the Richmond Tennis Club. 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 www.vch.ca/COVID19.

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/.