Daily Update – June 15, 2020

Ministry of Health update

In today's briefing, Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, and Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, reported 36 new cases of COVID-19 in B.C. since last Thursday's update, bringing the total number of people who have tested positive to 2,745 since the pandemic began. Of those, 934 have been in the Vancouver Coastal Health region. The number of people in hospitals throughout B.C. sits at 13, including four people in critical care, and 2,395 people are considered fully recovered. There have been no new health-care outbreaks, but there are still four active outbreaks in long-term care.

New Foundry centres

Squamish youth will be among those in B.C. who will have faster, easier access to mental health and substance use services and supports with the announcement today of eight new Foundry centres to be developed throughout the province. Judy Darcy, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, said the new Foundry centres -- in Burns Lake, Comox Valley, Cranbrook, Langley, Squamish, Surrey, Port Hardy and Williams Lake -- will offer increased access to integrated health and wellness services for young people aged 12 to 24. Each centre will offer primary care, youth and family peer supports, walk-in counselling, mental health and substance use services, and social services all under one roof, making it easier for youth to get help when they need it.

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. 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/.