LATEST UPDATE – June 18, 2021

In an effort to keep our community partners connected, we are providing you with regular COVID-19 updates.

Ministry of Health update
In yesterday’s joint statement on B.C.’s COVID-19 response, Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer, and Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, reported 120 new cases in Thursday’s reporting period and 13 of those cases were in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) area.

The total number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 in B.C. now stands at 146,794 since the start of the pandemic. There are 1,451 active cases of COVID-19 across B.C. currently.

Across the province, there was one new COVID-19 related death, while 131 people are currently hospitalized, with 44 of these cases receiving treatment in ICU/critical care. The total number of individuals who have passed away due to COVID-19 is 1,739.

COVID-19 vaccine update
Dr. Henry said 76.5% of all adults in B.C. and 74.8% of those 12 years and older have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine. In total, 4,231,871 doses of Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca vaccines have been administered in B.C., 768,008 of which are second doses.

The province announced a reduced supply of the Pfizer vaccine in the first two weeks of July, with the shortfall being made up at the end of the month. Minister Dix says the reduced supply will not affect the timelines for B.C.’s restart plans.

Updates to VCH’s implementation of B.C.’s Immunization Plan
VCH reminds residents in our region to ensure they are registered on the Get Vaccinated provincial registration system. To receive an alert to book your appointment for your first or second dose you must be registered on this platform: www.gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated. Residents born in 2009 or earlier (12+ years of age) are eligible to receive their first dose vaccine, with second dose appointments scheduled approximately eight weeks following your first dose appointment. Registering takes approximately two minutes and ensures you receive your vaccination appointment as quickly and efficiently as possible.

If you don’t have a Personal Health Number or if you are unable to book online, you can register by phone at 1-833-838-2323. The call centre is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. or 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on holidays. Those who would prefer to register in-person can visit a Service BC office.

The City of Richmond and Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) have partnered to host drop-in vaccine clinics for Richmond seniors 65 and older and their caregivers who have not received a first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

The clinics will take place on Friday, June 18 and Friday, June 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Seniors Centre at the Minoru Centre for Active Living, located at 7191 Granville Avenue in Richmond. Appointments will be on a first come, first served basis for Richmond seniors 65+ and their caregivers requiring their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. The site is accessible and onsite help including translation services will be available, if needed.

Enhanced safety measures and protocols are in place at all VCH COVID-19 vaccination clinics. Visitors are reminded to wear a short-sleeve shirt as the vaccine will be delivered to the upper arm. Everyone receiving a vaccine will be monitored for 15 minutes following their appointment.

VCH is expanding the vaccination capacity at its Vancouver Community College site to support the ongoing delivery of COVID-19 vaccinations to residents in our region.

Since the start of BC’s immunization plan, the Vancouver Community College site has delivered over 46,000 vaccines to residents and will continue to play a pivotal role in our efforts to vaccinate residents as safely and efficiently as possible.
Starting June 21, Vancouver Community College will have the capacity to deliver 1,200 COVID-19 vaccinations per day, as VCH continues to support residents with receiving their first and second dose vaccinations. The clinic will run from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., seven days a week.

To support this transition, COVID-19 testing services will no longer be provided at Vancouver Community College, effective June 18. Both the clinic space and resources will be redirected to prioritize the delivery of vaccines to residents. As COVID-19 cases continue to decline across the VCH region, the volume of COVID-19 tests conducted at Vancouver Community College has dropped dramatically, from an average of over 360 tests per day in November 2020 to nearly 150 tests per day in June 2021.

VCH residents who require testing services are encouraged to attend one of four other test collection centres in Vancouver. VCH is committed to ensuring anyone who requires testing for COVID-19 has access to low-barrier treatment and care. Anyone in the Vancouver Coastal Health region with cold, influenza or COVID-19-like symptoms, however mild, can be assessed for and get a COVID-19 test. Visit the BCCDC website here for more information.

New home support resource pamphlet
VCH has recently developed some new resource material for home support services and how to access it. This information is available in various languages.

- Home support pamphlet
  [English] | [العربية Arabic] | [فارسی Farsi] | [Français French] | [Español Spanish] | [Tagalog] | [Tiếng Việt Vietnamese]

- Home support client handbook:
  [English] | [فارسی Farsi]

Other resources
Find the Provincial Health Officer’s orders here. To see a map of COVID-19 cases by local health area, visit here. For the latest medical updates, including case counts, prevention, risks and testing, visit: http://www.bccdc.ca/
For community engagement opportunities at VCH, see: https://engage.vch.ca/

COVID-19 vaccination resource toolkit:
- COVID-19 vaccine registration poster:
  [English] | [العربية Arabic] | [简体中文 Chinese Simplified] | [繁體中文 Chinese Traditional] | [فارسی Farsi] | [한국어 Korean] | [ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Punjabi] | [Español Spanish] | [Tagalog] | [Tiếng Việt Vietnamese]

- Vaccine safety information:
  [English] | [简体中文 Chinese Simplified] | [繁體中文 Chinese Traditional] | [한국어 Korean] | [ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Punjabi] | [Tagalog]

- Aftercare information:
  [English] | [العربية Arabic] | [American Sign Language - ASL] | [简体中文 Chinese Simplified] | [繁體中文 Chinese Traditional] | [فارسی Farsi] | [한국어 Korean] | [ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Punjabi] | [Español Spanish] | [Tigrinya] | [Tiếng Việt Vietnamese]

- COVID-19 vaccine information sessions hosted by S.U.C.C.E.S.S. and VCH (Cantonese and Mandarin)
  [Cantonese] | [Mandarin]

- COVID-19 vaccine Q&A with Dr. Ray Chaboyer
  [English]

- COVID-19 vaccine info session by VCH Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. Patricia Daly
  [English]