

Daily Update – May 21, 2020

Briefing with Dr. Henry

In today's daily briefing, Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, reported 12 new cases of COVID-19 in B.C., bringing the total number of people who have tested positive to 2,479 since the pandemic began. Of those, 887 have been in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) region. The number of people in hospitals throughout B.C. sits at 43, including eight people in critical care, and 2,020 people are considered fully recovered. The United Poultry Outbreak, one of the first at a poultry facility, has been declared over and is up and running again. There are still 17 active outbreaks in long-term care, assisted living, and acute care throughout B.C. One more person has died in the VCH region; we offer our condolences to their family, friends and caregivers, as well as to everyone who has lost their loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic.

B.C. campsites reserved for B.C. residents this summer

Earlier today, B.C. Parks announced that campsites in provincial parks will be closed to people from outside the province this summer in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Non-B.C. residents who already have reservations should call before June 15 to cancel and receive a full refund. Reservations made after next Monday by non-residents will be subject to immediate cancellation without refund. The closure has been done, in part, to ensure British Columbians have first and only dibs on their provincial campsites for a summer during which they are not supposed to travel outside B.C.

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](https://twitter.com/CDCofBC) or visit the website: <http://www.bccdc.ca/>.