

Daily Update – May 25, 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. — which includes five cases detected by Sunday, and seven cases detected by today — bringing the total number of people who have tested positive to 2,530 since the pandemic began. Of those, 894 have been in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) region. The number of people in hospitals throughout B.C. sits at 37, including seven people in critical care, and 2,102 people are considered fully recovered. There are still 16 active outbreaks in long-term care, assisted living, and acute care throughout B.C. Health Minister Adrian Dix said he will provide a surgical renewal progress report later this week.

Eating poultry is safe

Dr. Henry also said there have been no reported cases of food or food packaging associated with the transmission of COVID-19. The food supply is safe and continues to be safe, including products from facilities where there have been outbreaks.

Visiting restrictions

Visiting restrictions will remain in place in acute and long term care. We understand it's difficult, but many people have lost their lives. Measures must continue to be in place in LTC at this time.

Vancouver Coastal Health Virtual Townhall

Do you have health-care related questions about COVID-19, B.C.'s Restart Plan or B.C.'s Surgical Renewal Plan? Tonight, May 25, we invite those living within the Vancouver Coastal Health region to join VCH CEO Mary Ackenhusen and Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. Patricia Daly in a Virtual Townhall as they answer your questions. Watch live and submit questions on the Government of BC [Facebook page](#) or watch live on the [YouTube channel](#) from 7:15-8:15 p.m.

City of Vancouver to introduce “slow streets”

Earlier today, the City of Vancouver announced it is moving ahead with plans to repurpose road space to support recovery efforts. This includes plans to introduce 50 km of "slow streets," 12 of which have already been installed. It also includes expediting the permitting process for outdoor patios and restaurants in order to give people the room they need to resume some of their normal activities. Council is also considering a motion that would ask staff to accelerate the repurposing of road space in neighbourhoods across the city to give people room to move, carry out daily tasks, support business access, and connect with others while maintaining physical distancing.





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/>.

