

LATEST UPDATE – OCTOBER 8, 2021

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

COVID-19 vaccine update

As of Oct. 8, 88.6 % of eligible people 12 and older in B.C. have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine and 82.2% have received their second dose. Since December 2020, the Province has administered 7,908,832 doses of Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines.

Ministry of Health update

In the Oct. 8 statement on B.C.'s COVID-19 response, 743 new cases were reported with 69 of those 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 192,491 since the start of the pandemic. There are 5,969 active cases of COVID-19 across B.C. currently.

Five new COVID-19 related death were recorded, while 360 people are currently hospitalized, with 137 of these cases receiving treatment in ICU/critical care. The total number of individuals who have passed away due to COVID-19 is 2,001.

A reminder that people can get their BC Vaccine Card online at gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard. Once verified, a person will be able to save a digital copy to their mobile device or print a hard copy to present along with their government-issued photo identification when entering designated businesses and events.

People without access to a computer can get their card from a Service BC Centre or by calling 1-833-838-2323 at the Get Vaccinated call centre.

VCH continues to operate several mass-vaccination and pop-up clinics across the region. For a full list of VCH vaccination clinics, including pop-up clinics, please visit <http://www.vch.ca/vaccine>.

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All clinics are accepting drop-ins for first and second doses. All are welcome at our clinics, including those without personal health numbers and people who are not residents of B.C. Clinic staff are available to help people register and book appointments at other clinics throughout the region, if needed, and can help answer any vaccine-related questions. All residents are encouraged to still [register on the provincial system](#) to ensure they receive an alert once they are eligible to book their second dose vaccination.

Third COVID-19 vaccine dose for clinically extremely vulnerable

Dr. Bonnie Henry announced the availability of a third dose for immunocompromised clinically extremely vulnerable people. She explained there are a number of people whose immune systems do not respond as well to vaccines, and adding a third dose can stimulate a response for many people that gives them as much protection as people with a strong immune response system. Approximately 100,000 individuals in British Columbia will receive an invitation for their third dose.

Mandatory vaccination to visit long-term, acute care and assisted-living settings

Dr. Henry announced an update to the visitor policy for long-term care and all other healthcare settings. Starting October 12, visitors to long-term care and assisted living facilities will need to show their vaccine card for proof of full immunization. She said this policy supports and protects healthcare workers and the people receiving care in these higher-risk settings.

Starting October 26, in line with the orders around health care workers in acute care and community care settings, visitors in acute care settings must also show they are fully vaccinated. Those who are not fully vaccinated will not be able to visit health care settings with exceptions for certain situations, like end-of-life and palliative care.

Mental health resources

October is Mental Health Awareness Month. Throughout the month, we will be highlighting some of VCH's mental health programs and services as well as [mental health resources](#) available to community members. Learn more via and on our social media channels. (Find @VCHHealthcare on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)). vch.ca/about-us/news and on our social media channels. (Find @VCHHealthcare on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)).

Community engagement opportunities

VCH values community input. Please consider participating in or sharing the featured community engagement opportunities below:

- [Feedback Survey - Pre-surgery kit for patients](#)
VCH's Enhanced Recovery After Surgery program is looking for feedback on a card that will be included in a pre-surgery kit. The card is intended to briefly explain the content in the pre-surgery kit while highlighting the key research based components that will aid in their preparation and recovery from surgery.

VCH community engagement opportunities can be found on our [Engage VCH](#) homepage.

Home support resource pamphlet

VCH has developed some 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](#)] | [[Français French](#)] | [[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](#)]

Thank you

We appreciate the time you spend reading these updates and hope you find the information and resources useful. If you no longer wish to receive the VCH Community Partner Update, please reply or send an email to ce@vch.ca with the word “unsubscribe”. Thank you.