

LATEST UPDATE – OCTOBER 22, 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. 22, 2021, 89.4% of eligible people 12 and older in B.C. have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine and 83.9% received their second dose.

In addition, 89.9% of all eligible adults in B.C. have received their first dose and 84.6% received their second dose.

Since December 2020, the Province has administered 8,120,458 doses of Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines.

Ministry of Health update

In the Oct. 22 statement on B.C.'s COVID-19 response, 649 new cases were reported with 61 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 200,898 since the start of the pandemic. There are 5,106 active cases of COVID-19 across B.C. currently.

In the past 24 hours, 13 new COVID-19 related deaths were recorded, while 365 people are currently hospitalized, with 143 of these cases receiving treatment in ICU/critical care. The total number of individuals who have passed away due to COVID-19 is 2,109.

COVID-19 capacity limits to be lifted

Indoor capacity limits in B.C. will be lifted on Monday, October 25, one day after the Vaccine Card deadline for people to be fully vaccinated to enter certain businesses.

The provincial health officer order restricting capacity limits to 50% for inside organized events and gatherings will be revised to allow 100% capacity in those settings where the BC Vaccine Card is in place and proof of vaccination status is checked. In addition, the requirement to remain seated at a table in restaurants and pubs will be lifted. Indoor mask requirements remain in effect for all indoor gatherings and events.

These changes apply to:

- indoor sporting events (e.g. hockey or basketball games)
- indoor concerts, theatre, movie theatres, dance and symphony events
- indoor organized events: examples are weddings, funeral receptions (outside of a funeral home) and organized parties.

Capacity limits remain in effect where regional orders are in place, including Fraser East and parts of Northern and Interior Health regions. Find the information bulletin [here](#).

Flu vaccine prevents serious illness

Influenza vaccination is free in B.C. and everyone six months and older is encouraged to get a flu shot.

Seasonal influenza and other respiratory viruses will be in communities alongside COVID-19 this fall and winter. In addition to COVID-19, it has the potential to escalate pressures already faced by the health-care system, particularly if the effects from COVID-19 and seasonal influenza occur at the same time. The Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry said last year's low influenza rates means our immunity against influenza is lower than usual.

Use Immunize B.C.'s [Flu Clinic Finder](#) to find a flu immunization clinic near you.

Pop-up COVID-19 vaccine clinics in Richmond

Vancouver Coastal Health is working with the Province of B.C. to make it easier than ever for people to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

- **Friday October 22:** Seniors Centre at Minoru Centre for Active Living (Multipurpose Room 1&Wellness Studio)
Clinic hours: 12:00 -20:00 | Address: 7191 Granville Ave, Richmond, BC V6Y 1N9
- **Wednesday October 27:** Richmond Curling Club (Arena)
Clinic Hours: 12:00 -20:00 | Address:5540 Hollybridge Way, Richmond, BC V7C 4N3
- **Friday October 29:** Thompson Community Centre (Banquet Hall)
Clinic Hours: 11:30 -19:30 | Address: 5151 Granville Ave, Richmond, BC V7C 1E6

VCH vaccination clinics

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>.

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.

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.

Vaccine registration for children ages five to 11

Dr. Henry said the province is getting ready to provide COVID-19 vaccines to youth five to 11 years of age as soon as they are approved for use by Health Canada, adding the vaccine could be available to that age group by early November.

In the meantime, parents can pre-register children through the provincial registration system [here](#). Notification of eligibility to book an appointment will be provided as soon as these vaccines are approved for use by Health Canada and the program is set up in B.C.

PPE Testing Lab ensures safety of patients and health-care workers

VCH's PPE Testing Laboratory is a pandemic-driven innovation established to help protect health-care workers, patients and frontline workers from COVID-19 by testing and validating personal protective equipment (PPE). [Read more.](#)

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 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:

- [Tertiary Mental Health Substance Use Mandate Review](#)
VCH is reviewing the Tertiary Mental Health Substance Use mandate in order to make improvements to the program. The review seeks input from up to 20 persons with lived or living experience (either personal lived experience or as a family member / caregiver) of the tertiary mental health and substance use services at VCH.
- [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.