

LATEST UPDATE – OCTOBER 28, 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 Thursday, Oct. 28, 2021, 89.8% of eligible people 12 and older in B.C. have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine and 84.9% received their second dose.

In addition, 90.2% of all eligible adults have received their first dose and 85.5% received their second dose.

Since December 2020, the Province has administered 8,202,550 doses of Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines.

Ministry of Health update

In the Oct. 28 statement on B.C.'s COVID-19 response, 758 new cases were reported with 74 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 204,330 since the start of the pandemic. There are 4,961 active cases of COVID-19 across B.C. currently.

In the past 24 hours, 10 new COVID-19 related deaths were recorded, while 434 people are currently hospitalized, with 155 of these cases receiving treatment in ICU/critical care. The total number of individuals who have passed away due to COVID-19 is 2,147.

COVID-19 booster shots

More people in B.C. will start to receive invitations for a COVID-19 booster shot as the Province continues its COVID-19 immunization plan, prioritizing B.C.'s elderly and most at-risk through to the December holiday. The plan expands to include all British Columbians 12+ beginning in January 2022.

People 70+ who are registered in the [Get Vaccinated System](#), as well as Indigenous Peoples 12+, will soon be invited to book their booster. Booster doses are underway for other priority groups, including residents of long-term care and assisted living facilities and vulnerable people living in shelters or high-risk congregate settings.

As was the case with the first and second doses, the timing of invitations is based on risk and age (beginning oldest to youngest), with an interval of between six to eight months from the second dose.

Boosters will be delivered in health authority public-health community clinics and by participating pharmacies around the province. People who are registered in the Get Vaccinated System will receive an invitation to book their booster shot when it's their turn. Walk-ins are not available for booster shots.

Vaccine registration for children ages five to 11

Vaccinations for children five to 11 are subject to Health Canada approval and are anticipated to be coming soon. The vaccine program for children ages five to 11 will draw on a separate supply of vaccine designed for children and will be delivered in parallel to the booster program.

In the meantime, parents can pre-register children through the provincial registration system [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. 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.

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>.

Next pop-up clinic:

- **Friday October 29: Thompson Community Centre (Banquet Hall)**
Clinic Hours: 11:30 -19:30 | **Address:** 5151 Granville Ave, Richmond, BC V7C 1E6

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/vaccinocard. 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.

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:

- [Become a Mental Health & Substance Use Interview Panel Advisor](#)
The Client and Family Support and Involvement Team for Vancouver Acute, Community & Regional Tertiary are seeking a number of client and family advisors that can be part of leadership interview panels in all of our Vancouver Mental Health and Substance Use areas: Vancouver Community, Vancouver Acute, and Regional Tertiary.
- [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.

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 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.