LATEST UPDATE – DECEMBER 10, 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 Friday, Dec. 10, 2021, 86% (4,288,204) of eligible people five and older in B.C. have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine and 82.2% (4,097,320) have received their second dose.

In addition, 91.4% (4,238,687) of eligible people 12 and older in B.C. have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, 88.4% (4,097,284) received their second dose and 12% (563,316) have received a third dose.

Also, 91.8% (3,971,911) of all eligible adults in B.C. have received their first dose, 88.9% (3,845,173) received their second dose and 13% (562,602) have received a third dose.

Since December 2020, the Province has administered 8,919,000 doses of Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, AstraZeneca and Pfizer Pediatric COVID-19 vaccines.

Ministry of Health update
In the Dec. 10 statement on B.C.’s COVID-19 response, 437 new cases were reported with 90 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 222,013 since the start of the pandemic. There are 2,994 active cases of COVID-19 across B.C. currently.

In the past 24 hours, three new COVID-19 deaths were recorded, while 211 individuals are currently in hospital and 72 of those are receiving treatment in ICU/critical care. The total number of individuals who have passed away due to COVID-19 is 2,381.

Five cases of Omicron confirmed
Provincial Health Officer (PHO) Dr. Bonnie Henry confirmed there are now five cases of the Omicron variant in the province, with four additional cases being confirmed over the weekend. Symptoms appear to be mild, and no one with the variant has been hospitalized.

Understanding the anxiety the variant is causing, Dr. Henry said: “We have been through this before, we have seen our worst-case scenario and we know what to do to prevent it.”

Vaccinations for children aged five to 11
The vaccination campaign continues for 5- to 11-year-olds. Parents and guardians who have registered their child with Get Vaccinated will receive invitations to book appointments. Parents and guardians are encouraged to register their children and will be notified by text or email when it is time to book their child’s appointment.
Visit VCH social media sites to see videos and photos of some of the brave children rolling up their sleeves and getting their COVID-19 vaccine: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter.

**Fast-tracking COVID-19 booster shots**
Those registered with the provincial vaccine booking system aged 65 and older will begin receiving notifications to book booster appointments this week, provided it has been at least six months since their second vaccine dose.

Those who are considered clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV), as well as those who received two doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine, will also receive invitations to book booster appointments soon.

For most people under the age of 65, invitations for booster doses will begin in January, according to descending order of age.

**More pharmacies are being added to the province’s Get Vaccinated system**
More pharmacies are being added to the province’s Get Vaccinated system, with the goal of having 1,000 pharmacy partners entered into the system by January. Their addition to the system will make it easier for people aged 18 years and older to book appointments without having to contact different pharmacies directly.

**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](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 still encouraged to 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](http://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.

**iCON’s 2021 virtual Chinese Health Forum: Dementia 360**
Join iCON for the 2021 virtual Chinese Health Forum: “Take Charge of Your Health: Dementia 360”. This free online, interactive forum will take place on Saturday, December 11 and Sunday, December 12, 2021 from 2 to 4 p.m.
Delivered in Cantonese, Mandarin and English, this forum is designed to help patients, their families and caregivers optimize their quality of life by empowering them with knowledge and resources to manage dementia.

- Recognizing Dementia - early detection and when to seek help
- Living with Dementia – nutrition and mental health, home safety
- Where and how to find help in the community - navigation of health services, treatments and medications
- Long Term Care - advanced care planning

Participants can attend the virtual health exhibition to learn more about the support programs and resources provided by local health and community organizations. For more details and to register, visit https://bit.ly/3m5QtZD.

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.

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] | [Tigri 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.

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Land Acknowledgement
We would like to acknowledge that our places of work and the Vancouver Coastal Health facilities lie on the traditional, unceded homelands of the fourteen First Nation Communities of the Heiltsuk, Kitasoo-Xai’xais, Lil’wat, Musqueam, N’Quatqua, Nuxalk, Samahquam, Sechelt, Skatin, Squamish, Tla’amin, Tsleil-Waututh, Wuikinuxv, and Xa’xtsa.