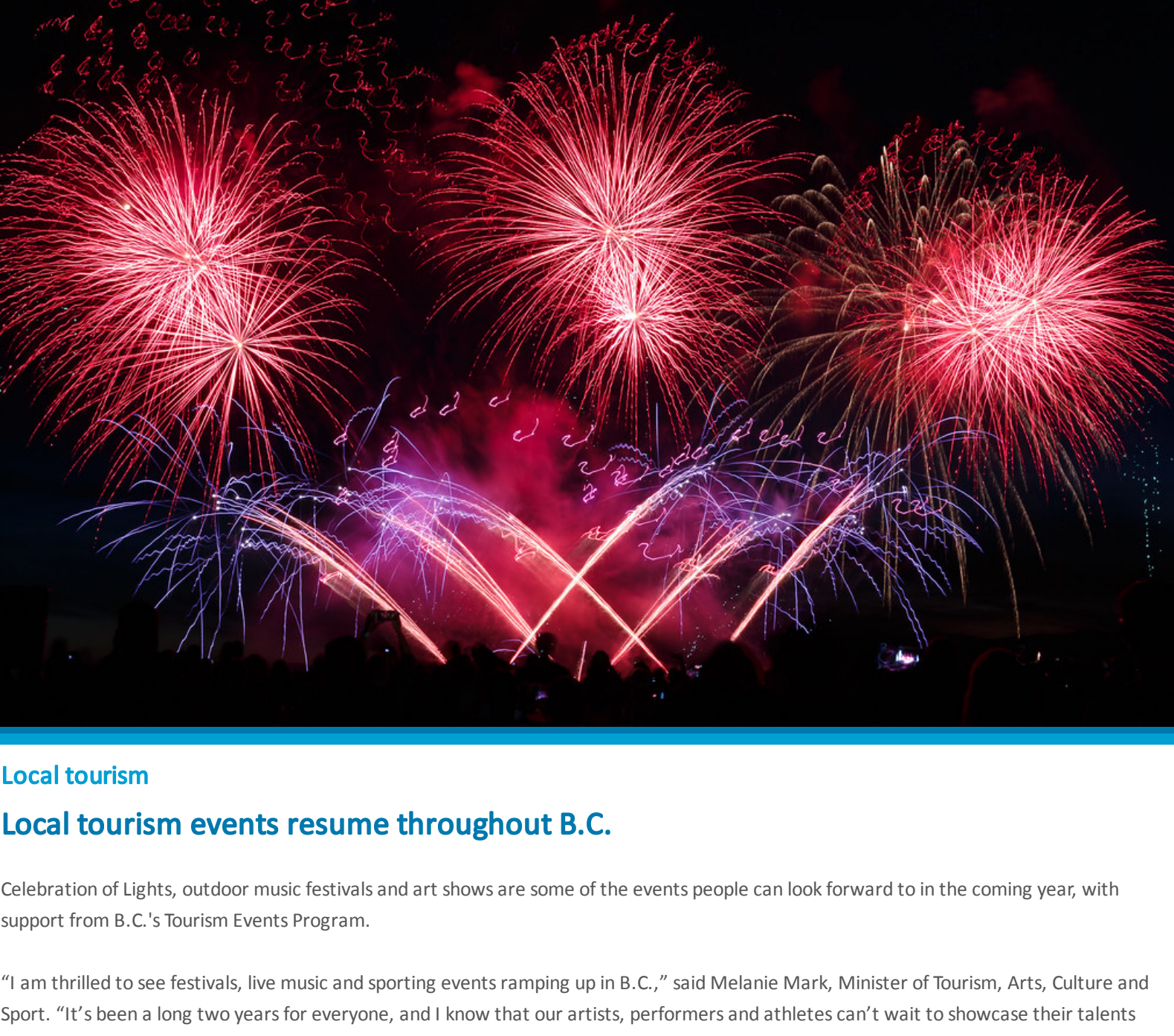


oneVCH COVID-19 Bulletin

April 28, 2022



Local tourism

Local tourism events resume throughout B.C.

Celebration of Lights, outdoor music festivals and art shows are some of the events people can look forward to in the coming year, with support from B.C.'s Tourism Events Program.

"I am thrilled to see festivals, live music and sporting events ramping up in B.C.," said Melanie Mark, Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport. "It's been a long two years for everyone, and I know that our artists, performers and athletes can't wait to showcase their talents once again. The Tourism Events Program helps promote these events so they get the local, national and international attention needed to attract visitors to communities and be a magnet for tourism throughout the province."

[Read the news release →](#)



Booster doses

Second booster vaccine program

Immunize BC is rolling out a [second booster vaccine program](#) for seniors over the age of 70, Indigenous people over the age of 55, and residents of long-term care and assisted living facilities.

You are encouraged to register yourself and eligible family members for booster doses at the [Get Vaccinated webpage](#) or by calling 1-833-838-2323. Once you've registered, you'll be able to book an appointment using your confirmation number. For general information about COVID-19 vaccination, please visit the [B.C. Centre for Disease Control website](#).

People who are clinically extremely vulnerable continue to be prioritized for their COVID-19 vaccinations. Those who have received their full three-dose primary series are eligible for their first booster dose about six months after their previous dose.

Getting a booster dose after you had COVID-19

You should get a booster dose even if you've already had COVID-19. The vaccine provides more reliable protection than having COVID-19. If you've recently had a positive COVID-19 test result, you can wait up to 3 months for your booster dose or get it any time after your symptoms have passed. It is not harmful to get vaccinated and it will give you a good boost to your protection. For more information, go [here](#).

COVID-19 Virtual Town Hall

April 28, 2022 Virtual Town Hall: recognizing our staff and medical staff

During the April 28 Virtual Town Hall, VCH leadership recognized the amazing work and unwavering commitment of VCH staff and medical staff for providing exceptional care to our patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please take a moment to view a recording of the Virtual Town Hall.

[View a recording of the April 28 Virtual Town Hall →](#)

Parking

Parking update

A reminder that parking patrol and enforcement for patients, staff, volunteers and visitors will resume April 30.

Eligible patients who meet pay parking exemptions (those receiving dialysis treatment or undergoing cancer treatment in acute-care programs, parents or guardians of children staying in hospital overnight, and those experiencing financial hardship) are now being provided with a QR code (provided by the clinic) to validate their vehicle's licence plate using the Offstreet parking validation platform. Eligible patients who have parked in the Vancouver General Hospital W. 12th Avenue Parkade or the Gordon and Leslie Diamond Health Care Centre Parkade will inform the attendant at the exit that they have validated their parking through Offstreet.

For questions related to staff parking privileges, waitlists, payment cancellation or other information, please email or call Lower Mainland Consolidated (LMC) Parking Administration, Mon-Fri 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at LMCParking@fraserhealth.ca or 604.930.5440.

[Read more about parking at VCH sites →](#)

Professional development

Post-COVID-19 recovery session: an overview of long-haulers

Based on the [global ECHO model](#), the BC ECHO for Post-COVID-19 Recovery is a free virtual learning community of specialists and community health-care providers who use instructive and case-based learning to improve care for patients recovering from symptoms post COVID-19.

The learning objectives for this session include:

- Exemplify compassion towards individuals struggling with post-COVID-19 recovery
- Apply the approaches to management based on symptoms and "red flags"
- Understand the self-management nature of post-COVID-19 recovery

Presenter: Dr. Ric Arseneau, General Internist from St. Paul's Hospital and BC Women's Hospital and Associate Clinical Professor at UBC

Date and time: May 10, 12 - 1 p.m.

Topic: Post-COVID-19 Recovery: an overview of long-haulers

[REGISTER HERE](#)

For more details about the BC ECHO for Post-COVID-19 Recovery and future sessions, please visit the [website](#).

Note: if you previously attended the BC ECHO for Post-COVID-19 Recovery session on Aug. 10, 2021, you will not receive a UBC CPD certification (1 Mainpro+ credit or 1 MOC (Section 1) Group Learning Credit).

Medical staff forum

Upcoming medical staff forum to focus on Indigenous health and COVID-19

Join us for a presentation from Dr. Don Wilson, Regional Medical Director for Indigenous Health and first Indigenous member of the Health Authority Medical Advisory Committee (HAMAC), on cultural safety and the latest Indigenous health initiatives at VCH. There will also be a COVID-19 update and live Q&A session.

Panelists: Dr. Chad Kim Sing (host), Dr. Ross Brown, Dr. Patricia Daly, Vivian Eliopoulos, Dr. Don Wilson and Dr. Titus Wong

Date and time: June 15, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Topic: Indigenous health and COVID-19

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Submit questions in advance using the registration link, or via email to: darren.pijer@vch.ca.

See [VCH Medical Staff Intranet](#) for content from previous medical staff forums.

Medical staff COVID-19 Q&A

Q. As the Omicron BA.2 variant becomes more dominant, what will the efficacy of Sotrovimab look like?

Answer: Sotrovimab is not effective against the BA.2 variant. We have a robust provincial group that makes recommendations around antiviral treatments, and we will continue to monitor the effectiveness against the variants that are spreading. We have provided antivirals to thousands of people in the province based on provincial criteria.

We are fortunate to have extensive surveillance across both Public Health and acute care, and several groups are part of national surveillance. We are also looking forward to incorporating COVID-19 into the overall influenza surveillance.

There is more information about Sotrovimab (and other treatments) and the BA.2 variant on the BCCDC website.

The question & answer were generated at the April 20 Medical Staff Forum. The session slides and important links, as well as those from previous forums, will be available on the [Medical Staff intranet](#).

COVID-19 DATA

COVID-19 data, including for long-term care, assisted living and independent living sites, is available on the B.C. Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) website, including outbreak and case information.

[BC COVID-19 Dashboard →](#)

		New Cases/Incidents Since Yesterday	Today's Total/Prevalent Cases on Precautions	Cumulative Cases
Hospitalized		19	111	4,176
Critical Care (Ventilated)		1 (0)	7 (5)	996 (520)
Not in Critical Care		18	104	3,180

COVID-related Readmission within 30 Days of First Onset	5	281
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Discharged (Deaths)	14 (1)	3,968 (501)
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Note:
1) Data presented is our best conservative assessment but is subject to change due to data entry corrections and clinical review.
2) The patient hospitalization status and location is based on the midnight census and only inpatient encounters greater than 24 hours are included.
3) COVID cases refer to COVID positive patients who were hospitalized within 30 days of first positive lab test result in the community or first positive specimen collection date in the hospital.
4) COVID cases include patients that are residing from within VCH/PHC, outside the health authority, out of province, or out of country.
5) COVID positive incident cases is the date the patient tests positive in hospital or the date of admission if the patient's positive occurs before hospitalization.
6) Cumulative cases are based on total incidents over time; a patient is counted once with multiple admissions for COVID. If readmission is within 30 days of initial infection.

Data Source:
1) Quality Patient and Safety
2) Census Database from Decision Support

Version 2.6

Incident and Prevalent Cases of COVID-19 in Hospital and Critical Care across VCH/PHC

Reporting from 3/12/2020 to midnight of 4/27/2022 - New streamlined version of the report with focus on cases that are on precautions as of July 14, 2021

Incident Hospital Cases (Stratified by critical care)

Cumulative Hospital Cases (Stratified by critical care)

Prevalent Hospital Cases on Precautions (Stratified by critical care)

Note:
1) Data presented is our best conservative assessment but is subject to change due to data entry corrections and clinical review.
2) The patient hospitalization status and location is based on the midnight census and only inpatient encounters greater than 24 hours are included.
3) COVID cases refer to COVID positive patients who were hospitalized within 30 days of first positive lab test result in the community or first positive specimen collection date in the hospital.
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Data Source:
1) Quality Patient and Safety
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Version 2.6

KEY LINKS

[Text Alerts: Physician sign up keyword: COVID19](#)

[Text Alerts: Staff sign up keyword: ALERT](#)

[Staff supports during COVID-19](#)

[Medical staff resources during COVID-19](#)

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

- [BC COVID-19 Symptom Self-Assessment Tool](#)
- [Wellness Together Canada: Mental Health and Substance Use Support](#)
- [COVID-19 Multilingual Resources](#)
- [LifeWorks Employee and Family Assistance Program Services](#)
- [VCH Virtual Health website](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control \(IPAC\) website](#): Staff resources on how to assess, test and treat patients and protect patients and staff
- [Infection Prevention and Control Policy](#): Ministry of Health
- [VCH Regional Pandemic Outbreak Response Plan](#): VCH Communicable Disease Control website
- [VCH Intranet](#): COVID-19 updates

REGIONAL EOC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES

- [COVID-19 VCH-PHC Regional EOC](#)

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS?

[Please click here to submit questions or comments.](#)

REMINDER ABOUT MEDIA

If you receive a media inquiry, please contact our Public Affairs team immediately for support. Our media line is **604-202-2012** or email media@vch.ca.

The bulletins are distributed on Thursdays. Past bulletins are available on the [COVID-19](#) section of our [VCH staff intranet](#).