



# COMMUNITY UPDATE

*The latest from Northern Health*

**Wednesday, September 30, 2020**

**Note:** Please share any information in this update as appropriate.

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## COVID-19

### Provincial case counts and statements

Confirmed NH cases since the beginning of the pandemic, according to the **September 29 provincial update**:

- **309** cases
  - **43** active
  - **6** new
- **2** deaths (**0** new)

As always, it is important that we remain vigilant in our communities.

For the latest provincial numbers, please refer to the [BC COVID-19 dashboard](#), which is updated Monday-Friday. The dashboard may not work in all browsers; Chrome is suggested. Surveillance reports for COVID-19, which includes breakdown of cases by Health Service Delivery Area, are [posted every Thursday on the BCCDC website](#).

- [Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – September 22, 2020
- [BCCDC Surveillance report](#) – September 17, 2020

### Long-term care/assisted living digest – issue 8

The long-term care task group will be developing updates bi-weekly for residents and families of long-term care homes and assisted living facilities

[This issue](#) of the update provides information about why visits are being monitored, the importance of maintaining physical distancing during visits, and a survey about the impact of visiting restrictions in long-term care homes and assisted living facilities.

## Trusted links and resources for COVID-19

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): A Northern Health Guide for Your Community](#)
- [BC Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [HealthLink BC COVID-19 page](#)
- [WHO FAQ](#)
- [Health Canada FAQ](#)
- [COVID-19 content in other languages](#)
- WorkSafe BC - [COVID-19 information and resources](#)
- Northern Health COVID-19 Online Clinic & Information Line: **1-844-645-7811**
- Northern Health Environmental Health Officer Line: **1-250-565-7322**
- For **non-medical info**, call **1-888-COVID19 / 1-888-268-4319** 7 days, 7:30 am - 8 pm

For current information on restrictions on travel, gatherings and other issues, see the [Provincial Health Officer's COVID-19 webpage](#).

## Overdose prevention and response

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### Announcing the First Nations Virtual Substance Use & Psychiatry Service

FNHA has launched a First Nations Virtual Substance Use and Psychiatry Service. This service is now available to First Nations people and their families living in BC with referral from a health and wellness provider.

The purpose of the new service is:

1. To provide direct virtual access to addictions specialists and psychiatric care for First Nations people and their family members living in BC.
2. To provide addictions medicine and psychiatry services where every client encounter is aligned with the principles and practices of cultural safety and humility.
3. To provide addictions medicine and psychiatry services where collaborative care planning and wraparound care services are integral to all client encounters.

FNHA also offers a Virtual Doctor of the Day program which provides virtual access to primary care (family practice physicians) for First Nations people and their families living in BC.

For more information:

- [Virtual Substance Use & Psychiatry Service webpage](#)
- [Virtual Substance Use & Psychiatry Referral Guide for Providers](#)
- [Virtual Doctor of the Day Webpage](#)
- [Virtual Doctor of the Day Poster](#)