



COMMUNITY UPDATE

The latest from Northern Health

Wednesday, November 4, 2020

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

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COVID-19

COVID-19 case counts and statements

As of November 3, **425** cases have been reported in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic

- Cases currently active: **21**
- New cases: **3**
- Currently admitted to ICU: **0**
- Deaths in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic: **3 (0 new)**

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

For the latest provincial numbers, see the [BC COVID-19 dashboard](#), which is updated Monday-Friday. The dashboard may not work in all browsers; Chrome is suggested.

Surveillance reports, including a breakdown of cases by HSDA, are [posted each Friday by the BCCDC](#).

- [Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – November 3, 2020
- [BCCDC Surveillance report](#) – October 30, 2020

Aboriginal Veterans Day and Remembrance Day will look a little different this year: Consider observing them at home

From the [BCCDC](#): Because of COVID-19, events for Aboriginal Veterans Day on November 8 and Remembrance Day on November 11 will be different this year. Ceremonies will be smaller, and some traditional events have been cancelled.

If you're planning an event, you must comply with the Public Health Officer's order for [Events and Gatherings](#).

If you're observing Remembrance Day this year, check with local groups or the [Canadian Legion](#) for updated guidance, as there are limits to how many people can gather.

Consider staying home and observing Remembrance Day programming by radio, television or social media.

For more information, see the [full BCCDC guidelines](#).

Faith-based gatherings: Participating safely is key to preventing the spread of COVID-19

From the [BCCDC](#): As pillars of strength in communities, faith-based services have an important role in connecting the community by contributing to beneficial and safe social interactions. These services also have a role to play in the prevention of COVID-19 transmission.

All faith-based organizations must develop a COVID-19 safety plan in accordance with protocols set by WorkSafeBC.

A reminder to all: these measures are not forever, but they are very important for now, to protect the health of everyone in the community and in the province. There will be a time when we can all come together again. Until then, participating safely in services and activities is integral to preventing the spread of COVID-19 and protecting those who are most vulnerable to complications of this disease.

For more information, see the [full BCCDC guidelines](#).

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

First Nations Virtual Substance Use & Psychiatry Service

The FNHA First Nations Virtual Substance Use and Psychiatry Service is now available to First Nations people and their families living in BC through referral from a health and wellness provider.

The purpose of this service is to:

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

A reminder as well about FNHA's 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](#)

Other organizational news

Long-term Care/Assisted Living Digest – Issue 10 now available

The long-term care task group is producing updates twice a month for residents and families of long-term care homes and assisted living facilities.

[This issue](#) of the update provides information about borrowing books and other materials from libraries, the fall flu campaign, and volunteers in our facilities.