



COMMUNITY UPDATE

The latest from Northern Health

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

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

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In Plain Sight

M.E. Turpel-Lafond’s Indigenous racism report released

Monday, the Hon. Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond (Aki-Kwe) released her final report, [*In Plain Sight: Addressing Indigenous-specific Racism and Discrimination in BC Health Care*](#). Key findings from the investigation include:

- Widespread Indigenous-specific stereotyping, racism, and discrimination exist in the BC health-care system.
- Racism limits access to medical treatment and negatively affects the health and wellness of Indigenous peoples in BC.

Led by Dr. Margo Greenwood, VP, Indigenous Health, our Indigenous Health team is supporting leadership as we review and digest the report. We will be working closely with the Ministry of Health, as well as with the Northern First Nations Health Partnership Committee and the Métis Nation of BC/Northern Health Leadership Committee as we address the recommendations in the report. For more information, see the following links:

- [*In Plain Sight* full report](#)
- [*In Plain Sight* summary report](#)
- [Ministry of Health statement](#)
- [Joint Health Authority statement](#)
- Indigenous Staff Wellness Support Line: **250-645-7870 (local 507870)**

COVID-19

COVID-19 case counts and statements

As of December 1, **860** cases have been reported in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic.

- Cases currently active: **250**
- New cases: **15**
- Currently in hospital: **33**
 - Currently admitted to HAU/ICU in hospital: **13**
- Deaths in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic: **7**

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](#) – December 1, 2020
- [BCCDC Surveillance report](#) – November 27, 2020

Three Northern Health nurses featured in provincial magazine for their work on COVID-19 prevention measures

The pandemic has put a spotlight on our front-line healthcare workers; however, there are many medical professionals who operate behind the scenes who have had a large impact on our COVID-19 response.

The winter 2020 issue of *Update*, the magazine of the [BC Nurses' Union](#), has highlighted three of our public health nurses to share their work and how it has changed since the pandemic started.

To read more from Lindsay Willoner and Nancy Dhaliwal from Terrace, and Jamie Hill from Prince George about being a public health nurse during an active pandemic, [see page 48 of the latest issue of Update](#).

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](#).

Other organizational news

Northern Health Connections: Upcoming holiday schedule and maintenance breaks

The Northern Health Connections program will be on a modified schedule starting December 17, followed by a break for the holiday season.

With decreased demand and reduced ridership during this period, we will use this time for repairs and maintenance to the fleet of Northern Health Connections buses.

Regular routes will resume service the week of January 7, 2021.

For more information, see the [full December 2020 schedule](#).