



COMMUNITY UPDATE

The latest from Northern Health

January 13, 2021

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COVID-19

COVID-19 case counts and statements

As of January 12, **2,606** cases have been reported in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic.

- Cases currently active: **497**
- New cases: **46**
- Currently in hospital: **43**
 - Currently admitted to HAU/ICU in hospital: **16**
- Deaths in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic: **43**

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.

Situation 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](#) – January 12, 2021
- [BCCDC Situation Report](#) – December 18, 2020

Northern Health's vaccine strategy to be released soon

More information on vaccines will be coming shortly. For more information about the COVID-19 vaccines, vaccine research, priority populations, and the provincial rollout plan, visit the Government of British Columbia's [COVID-19 vaccines page](#).

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

Alert: Illicit Benzodiazepines (“Benzos”) continue to contaminate street drugs

Illicit Benzodiazepines, known as “Benzos”, are contaminating street drugs and continue to circulate in the NH region. Benzos are a type of medication that “depresses” or slows down your brain activity. When benzos are mixed with opioids (down) there is a higher risk of overdose. Individuals who have overdosed using drugs contaminated with benzos may be difficult to rouse and slow to respond to naloxone.

More information:

- Northern Health Overdose Alert: [Overdose Emergency Information](#)
- Provincial Overdose Alert: [Toward the Heart](#)
- Harm reduction information in the context of COVID-19: [BCCDC](#)

Other Northern Health news

New Long-Term Care/Assisted Living Digest – Issue 14: Information for residents and families

The long-term care task group is continuing to produce updates twice a month for residents and families of long-term care homes and assisted living facilities. [This issue](#) of the update

provides information on the updates to the long-term care and seniors' assisted living visitor policy and COVID-19 vaccinations.

Haida Gwaii staff recognized for commitment to quality care of mothers and newborns

Staff at Haida Gwaii Hospital and Health Centre - Xaayda Gwaay NgaaysdII Naay - have been recognized for their exceptional commitment to high-quality care and patient safety when it comes to delivering babies.

In November, Salus Global granted the Haida Gwaii team the Managing Obstetrical Risk Efficiently (moreOB™) award. Read more on the [Northern Health story site](#).