



# COMMUNITY UPDATE

*The latest from Northern Health*

January 20, 2021

## Sections

COVID-19.....	1
Overdose prevention and response .....	3
Other Northern Health news.....	3

## COVID-19

### COVID-19 case counts and statements

As of January 20, **2,978** cases have been reported in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic.

- Cases currently active: **501**
- New cases: **35**
- Currently in hospital: **39**
  - Currently admitted to HAU/ICU in hospital: **17**
- Deaths in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic: **54**

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 20, 2021
- [BCCDC Situation Report](#) – January 15, 2021

### Stay informed with Northern Health's new vaccine information page

Northern Health's new [vaccine information page](#) will be updated weekly with information on:

- Community vaccine schedules
- Clinics that have been held to date

- Immunization numbers to date

Even with the COVID-19 vaccines, we still need to follow all the [orders and guidelines for public health and safety](#). This will help keep us all safe.

More information:

- For immunization numbers, see “Vaccine supply and administered” on [provincial dashboard](#) (works best in Chrome).
- See details on vaccine distribution: [BCCDC: BC's plan for vaccine distribution](#).
- Follow Northern Health on social media, where we share the most up-to-date information on vaccine clinics, outbreaks, new provincial orders, and more:
  - [Facebook](#)
  - [Twitter](#)
  - Spread the good news! Like and share this Facebook post, which provides general info on COVID-19 vaccines throughout the North: [COVID-19 vaccine arrives in Prince George](#)
- For local vaccine information for your community, check out the [Northern Health Facebook community groups](#).

## Healing in pandemic times: New video on Indigenous Peoples, stigma, and COVID-19

Indigenous Health, Northern Health, and the [National Collaborating Centre for Indigenous Health](#) (NCCIH), present this short animated video addressing the ongoing issue of stigmatization experienced by Indigenous Peoples in the health care system.

[Healing in Pandemic Times: Indigenous Peoples, Stigma and COVID-19](#) is intended for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous audiences.

The executive producer of the video is Dr. Margo Greenwood, VP Indigenous Health, NH and Academic Leader for the NCCIH. Dr. Greenwood notes, “As the video illustrates, the combination of pandemics and stigma is an old story for Indigenous people. But the pain is always new. And the ill effects can last for generations unless we all, Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, support each other to take positive healing action. Everyone should feel safe and supported in their communities.”

See a link to the [video in context](#) on the Northern Health Indigenous Health website.

## 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

---

### NH re-issuing Benzos drug alert

Northern Health is re-issuing a drug alert for contamination of street drugs with benzodiazepines (benzos). **There is risk of overdose and prolonged sedation that may not respond to naloxone.**

Please share this alert broadly with the goal to reach those who may be affected:

- [Benzos Drug Alert January 18](#)

### Information sheet: Do I Keep Giving Naloxone?

The toxic drug supply is making opioid overdoses look different, especially when they don't respond to naloxone quickly. Focus on the person's breathing, not whether they are awake. See the info sheet for more details:

- [Do I Keep Giving Naloxone? \(Toward the Heart\)](#)

## Other Northern Health news

---

### Two long-term care beds added earlier this year to Rotary Manor

Amidst the flurry of COVID-19 information lately, a good news story from earlier in 2020 has emerged in Dawson Creek with the addition of two new permanent long-term care (LTC) beds at Rotary Manor.

Before COVID, management and staff searched for a creative solution to reduce the waitlist of community residents and patients admitted from Dawson Creek and District Hospital to Rotary Manor. In early 2020, leadership and staff got together to determine the possibility of increasing the number of permanent LTC beds.

Read the [full story](#) on the Northern Health story site.