



COMMUNITY UPDATE

The latest from Northern Health

June 9, 2021

COVID-19

COVID-19 case counts and statements

Visit the new [COVID-19 surveillance dashboard](#) from the BCCDC, to see graphs, maps, and data showing COVID-19 case rates, test positivity and vaccination coverage by local health area (LHA) and community health service area (CHSA).

As of June 7, **7,719** cases have been reported in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic.

- Cases currently active: **79**
- New cases: **9**
- Currently in hospital: **8**
- Currently in ICU-level care in hospital: **8**
- Deaths in the region since the beginning of the pandemic: **153**

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.

As well, see the [COVID-19 surveillance dashboard](#) for graphs, maps, and data showing COVID-19 case rates, test positivity and vaccination coverage by local health area (LHA) and community health service area (CHSA).

- [Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – June 1, 2021
- [BCCDC Situation Report](#) – May 26, 2021

Physician and Medical Staff Access to Covid-19 Immunization Records

A patient's COVID-19 immunization record can be reviewed by physicians and medical staff in a read-only format through eHealthViewer. To access eHealthViewer, log into PowerChart and look for the [eHealthViewer] button at the top of the page.

All immunization records within the Provincial Immunization Registry (PPHIS) can be view in eHealthViewer (CareConnect).

Immunization access includes:

- Immunization history
- Recommended immunizations (as per BC Immunization Schedule)
- Special considerations
- Deferrals
- Adverse Events Following Immunization
- Risk Factors (active only)

CMOIS should **NOT** be considered an accurate source for this information as these specific immunizations will no longer be imported into that system due to delays in receipt resulting in an incomplete data set.

For more information, please review the [clinical data available in CareConnect](#) and instructions on [how to request access](#).

New Northern Heath Resource COVID-19 Community Toolkit

To empower local partners to share helpful information, we have created the [COVID-19 Community Toolkit](#), a digital resource for community partners with **3 key goals**:

- Get more people registered for their vaccine
- Highlight the community benefits of getting vaccinated
- Provide direction to *trusted* sources of information about vaccines and COVID-19

The toolkit includes:

- Links to factual sources of information.
- Digital images suitable for sharing on your website, social media platforms, email, or newsletter.
- Printable posters and infographics.

As trusted sources of information, community-based partners such as yourselves have a vital role to play in supporting public messaging, as people look for guidance and direction.

Our hope is that you, or your designated communications staff, will download and share these resources through your own internal communications channels, such as in a group email, on your website, through social media, in a digital newsletter, or printed and posted in your facility, supporting more Northern BC residents to get vaccinated.

COVID-19 Guide for communities

Northern Health's printable booklet [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): A Northern Health Guide for Your Community](#) contains all the information you need to help keep your community safe and well informed. The community guide is updated regularly online.

COVID-19 vaccine safety - myocarditis (heart inflammation)

Based on reported cases of myocarditis and pericarditis following COVID-19 vaccination, Health Canada and Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) are not seeing higher rates than would normally be expected in the general population.

To date, PHAC has seen no clear association established between myocarditis/pericarditis and mRNA vaccines, and no regulatory action has been taken in Canada or internationally.

Reported cases have been mild and self-limiting.

For these reasons, we have not seen a signal of concern but will continue to monitor closely in Canada. The WHO is also monitoring international reports.

Overall, the COVID-19 vaccines authorized in Canada are safe. The benefits of immunization continue to outweigh the risk.

Trusted links and resources for COVID-19

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): A Northern Health Guide for Your Community](#) – watch for a fully updated version (coming soon!)
- [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 Virtual 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

NORS - National Overdose Response Program

There are many available options for supporting those that are using substances alone.

One of the options to keep those who are using substances safe from overdose, while upholding substance users' right to dignity, respect and confidentiality, is the National Overdose Response Service (NORS) hotline 1-888-688-NORS (6677). No Wi-Fi or cell phone data is needed, just the ability to make a phone call.

NORS is a peer-run, peer-led overdose prevention open 24/7 hotline. With NORS, the person who answers your call will support you and get help if needed. They will request your address

and other details to know how and where to send help to you if something goes wrong. Your information is kept strictly confidential. Check out the [NORS website](#) for more information.

Other organizational news

Joint Report on First Nations Health and Wellness

A ground-breaking joint report from the Office of the Provincial Health Officer and the Office of the Chief Medical Officer is now available.

Titled [First Nations Population Health and Wellness Agenda](#) (PHWA), it is the fruit of a unique and multi-year partnership between the province and the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), providing an eagle-eye view of the health and wellness of First Nations people living throughout BC.

For more information, please visit the [First Nations Health Authority website](#).

Feelings First: Provincial campaign to raise awareness of social emotional development in the early years

Northern Health is excited to be part of the BC Healthy Child Development Alliance [Feelings First](#) campaign. On May 17, 2021, this 13-week social media campaign launched to spread awareness and spark conversation around Social and Emotional Development (SED) in the early years.

The goal of this campaign is to develop and distribute engaging messages that will build awareness about SED and of its importance to early child development.

This campaign is for:

- **Parents and caregivers** – to support British Columbians who care for children aged 0-5 years in learning about and implementing SED into their daily lives
- **Early years providers** – to supply learning tools and a standardized framework for further education on the topic of SED in the early years to share among their families and colleagues
- **Public at large** – to encourage everyone to consider the role of SED in the early years, in an effort to draw greater attention to this topic in our society

Want to get involved? Follow the campaign and share with your friends, family, and network:

- [Feelings First website](#)
- [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) @feelingsfirst.ca
- Facebook: [Feelings First](#)
- Have questions? Email info@feelingsfirst.ca