



COMMUNITY UPDATE

The latest from Northern Health

August 11, 2021

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COVID-19

Métis Nation town hall on vaccines

Join Dr. Martin Lavoie, Deputy Provincial Health Officer and Dr. Danièle Behn Smith Deputy Provincial Health Officer – Indigenous Health via Zoom on Thursday, August 12 (at 6 pm PST) for a presentation and Q&A on current epidemiology, variant of concerns, immunization rates, vaccine hesitancy, and more.

Visit [Métis Nation BC to register](#) and access the Zoom link.

Vax for BC

If you haven't got vaccinated yet or if it's been more than 49 days since your first dose, get vaccinated now at a drop-in, mobile or special event clinic. Roll up your sleeve and stop the spread of COVID-19.

Visit the [Vax for BC website](#) for more information.

Community Toolkit

To empower local partners to share helpful information, we have created a [COVID-19 Community Toolkit](#) - a digital resource for community partners, which includes vaccine clinic information (including [clinic schedules](#)), a community guide, trusted information and links, and more!

BC vaccination coverage rates and COVID-19 activity

COVID-19 dashboard

Visit the [COVID-19 surveillance dashboard](#) from the BCCDC for information by local health area (LHA) and community health service area (CHSA).

COVID-19 Numbers

As of August 10, **7,969** cases have been reported in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic.

- Cases currently active: **111**
- New cases: **15**
- Currently in hospital: **2**
 - Currently in ICU level care in hospital: **1**
- Deaths in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic: **159**

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, for a visual comparison of COVID-19 cases in BC by HSDA to other Canadian and global jurisdictions, see the [COVID-19 Epidemiology app](#). It's updated on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

- [BC COVID-19 pandemic update](#) – August 10, 2021
- [BCCDC Situation Report](#) – August 4, 2021

Trusted links and resources for COVID-19

- [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 Primary and Community Care Clinic: **1-844-645-7811**
- Northern Health Environmental Health Officer Line: **1-250-565-7322**
- 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

The overdose crisis and the impact on Northern First Nations communities

The toxic drug crisis has had devastating impacts on northern First Nations communities. First Nations people make up 14.8% of Northern BC's population, but last year accounted for 45.2% of Northern BC's toxic drug events.

In 2020, BC First Nations people died of toxic drug deaths at 5.3 times the rate of other BC residents. First Nations women accounted for 32% of these toxic drug deaths, double the rate of non-First Nations BC women.

The First Nations Health Authority has developed several infographics outlining this data and what actions have been taken.

- [First Nations in BC and the toxic drug crisis](#)
- [Toxic drug deaths and events in the Northern region](#)

Organizational news

Staying safe in warm weather

As the summer months continue, warm weather warm weather and bright sunshine can still lead to increased risks for our health and safety. For ways to stay safe while working in the heat, please see:

- [Northern Health heatwave information](#)
- [BC Government tips to stay safe and cool](#)
- [HealthLinkBC's beat the heat resources](#)
- [BCCDC's Warm weather safety](#)

Chetwynd General Hospital 50th anniversary

The Chetwynd General Hospital (CGH) is celebrating its 50th anniversary on Wednesday, August 18! There will be celebrations at CGH (in the parking area and garden) from 12 pm - 1:30 pm. The [Chetwynd and area Facebook group](#) will have pictures, stories, and comments, following this special event.

Long-term care and assisted living update – Issue 26: Information for residents and families

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

[Issue 26](#) of the long-term care and assisted living digest is now available. This issue provides an update on changes to the staff masking policy in long-term care homes and assisted living facilities, tips for coping during wildfire season, and information on heat and air quality.