



COMMUNITY UPDATE

The latest from Northern Health

September 29, 2021

Sections

[COVID-19](#)

[Overdose prevention and response](#)

[Organizational news](#)

COVID-19

Northern BC community immunization coverage

Immunization coverage for every community in Northern Health is available for you on the [Northern BC community immunization coverage page](#). This link includes both first and second dose counts and percentages per community and is updated every week.

Reminder: People need the BC Vaccine Card to access certain settings

The BC Vaccine Card is now the only acceptable proof of vaccination for British Columbians to enjoy certain businesses and recreational events safely.

For more information, please see [the BC Government website](#).

Vax for BC

If you haven't got vaccinated yet or if it's been more than 28 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

BCCDC COVID-19 dashboard

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

COVID-19 Numbers

As of September 28, **11,590** cases have been reported in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic.

- Cases currently active: **929**
- New cases: **117**
- Currently in hospital: **59**
 - Currently in ICU level care in hospital: **16**
- Deaths in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic: **172**

For the latest provincial numbers, see the Province of 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](#) – September 28, 2021
- [BCCDC Situation Report](#) – September 22, 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

Clarification: There is no shortage of injectable naloxone for Take Home Naloxone Kits

In a recent media coverage the premier announced that there was a provincial shortage of naloxone. This communication was referring to intranasal naloxone for police and RCMP

members. There currently is **no shortage of injectable naloxone** for the Take Home Naloxone program.

BCCDC continues to closely monitor their naloxone inventory, and currently have no supply issues. There may be delays in shipping due to increases in weekly order volume, but BCCDC will communicate any delays with distribution sites if they come up. BCCDC will also monitor for any urgent Naloxone requests and if a site is urgently needing any supplies they can contact naloxone@bccdc.ca

BC THN kits are available to those who are likely to witness and respond to an overdose. There are **no supply issues with the Take Home Naloxone Program** or Facility Overdose Response Box Programs. Use the site finder to locate a site near you: www.towardtheheart.com/site-finder

Interested in becoming a Take Home Naloxone (THN) site?

- Visit: <https://towardtheheart.com/naloxone>

Organizational news

Orange Shirt Day

Thursday, September 30 is the [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#) and was chosen to align with [Orange Shirt Day](#), a time of collective remembrance during which we honour those who attended Residential Schools as well as their families and communities. It is also a time to demonstrate personal and organizational commitments to reconciliation. This day honours the lost children and Survivors of residential schools, their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process.

For more information about Orange Shirt Day, please visit orangeshirtday.org, and read [the articles](#) Shelby Petersen (Lead, Knowledge Translation and Community Engagement with Indigenous Health) has written. For more information about the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, please continue reading [this article](#).

Preferred proponent chosen for new Dawson Creek hospital

People in Dawson Creek and area are one step closer to a new hospital now that a preferred proponent has been selected for the design phase.

“The selection of the team that will design the new hospital means another important milestone has been reached for people in the region,” said Adrian Dix, Minister of Health. “The new and bigger facility will deliver public health-care services to people in the South Peace for decades to come.”

As a result of the evaluation process, in co-ordination with Northern Health and Infrastructure BC, Clark Builders-Turner-HDR Architecture was selected.

See the [full Ministry of Health release](#).

For more information on the new Dawson Creek and District Hospital, [visit Let's Talk](#).