



COMMUNITY UPDATE

The latest from Northern Health

Wednesday, July 22, 2020

Note: Please share any information in this update as appropriate.

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COVID-19

Provincial case counts and statements

As of July 21, 2020, there were **69** confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Northern Health region. Although only four cases are considered active, it is important that we remain vigilant in our communities.

For the latest provincial numbers, please refer to the [BC COVID-19 dashboard](#), which is updated Monday-Friday. The dashboard may not work in all browsers; Chrome is suggested. Surveillance reports for COVID-19, which includes breakdown of cases by Health Service Delivery Area, are [posted every Thursday on the BCCDC website](#).

- [Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – July 21, 2020
- [BCCDC Surveillance report](#) – July 16, 2020

New NH Check In service to be piloted at selected departments

Provincial health authorities have been investigating options to allow for physical distancing in waiting rooms. NH Check In, whose tagline is “Let your name wait for you, while you do more important things,” is the solution selected by Northern Health.

NH Check In gives patients a map view of locations with estimated wait times, and the ability to virtually secure a spot in line, thus avoiding time spent in crowded waiting rooms. The tool is easy to use for both staff and patients, and can be used on computers or mobile devices.

NH Check In will initially be piloted at a small number of select NH departments, including lab, starting at the end of July – watch for announcements!

Long-term care/assisted living digest – issue 4

The long-term care task group is developing bi-weekly updates for residents and families of long-term care homes and assisted living facilities.

[This issue](#) of the update provides information about the changes to visiting restrictions, and the changes coming to allow personal services (e.g., hairdressing), in these facilities.

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.

This version has been updated with a new activity matrix, available on page 12. The community guide will continue to be updated regularly online as more resources are developed.

Food Program Funding Opportunities

Ensuring everyone has access to food is an important part of the COVID-19 response. [This document](#) offers potential funding opportunities for community-based food programs. If you know of, or represent, a community-based organization that supports food access, some of these grants might be helpful.

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 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](#).

Other organizational news

New platform, Let's Talk Northern Health, gives community members input opportunities for major projects

Our new online tool called "[Let's Talk Northern Health](#)" lets the public, our patients and families, our staff and physicians, and other stakeholders connect and provide input on major projects. Learn more about the platform and the projects already on the go!

For more information, see the [full story](#).