

COVID-19 UPDATE – April 1st, 2020

In an effort to keep our community partners connected, we are providing you with regular COVID-19 updates.

Key Updates for April 1st, 2020

- For a full list of updates from VCH visit vch.ca
- 497 COVID-19 cases in Vancouver Coastal Health region to date
- Dr. Henry also announced the Ministry of Health has posted the *COVID-19 Ethical Decision-Making Framework* online
- Premier Horgan announced BC Hydro measures to address economic impacts of COVID-19
- Prime Minister recalling Parliament to pass new legislation to deliver enhanced COVID-19 aid

Total COVID-19 cases in VCH region

In the Vancouver Coastal Health region, there have been 497 confirmed cases to date since the pandemic began. Many of those have been in long-term care or assisted living facilities, including ongoing outbreaks at the Lynn Valley Care Centre and Haro Park Centre. The experience gained means there is now a very low threshold for testing in long-term care; even one presumed case of COVID-19 is managed very aggressively.

COVID – 19 Ethical Decision Making Framework

Dr. Henry also announced the Ministry of Health has posted the *COVID-19 Ethical Decision-Making Framework* online, allowing the public to see the framework, and underlying principles and values that provide an interim process to support healthcare organizations and teams to make challenging decisions in a COVID-19 outbreak. It can be found [here](#). Also posted is the *COVID-19 Ethics Analysis: What is the Ethical Duty of Health Care Workers to Provide Care During COVID-19 Pandemic?* It can be found [here](#).

Premier announces BC Hydro measures to address the economic impacts of COVID-19

Earlier today, B.C. Premier John Horgan announced measures by BC Hydro to address the economic impacts of COVID-19 — including a universal one per cent reduction in rates for all customers. Residential customers who have lost jobs or had wages reduced as a result of COVID-19 will receive a three-month bill credit worth three times their average monthly bills over the past year, which will not have to be paid back. Small businesses forced to close as a result of COVID-19 will have their April to June 2020 bills forgiven, and the option of a three-month deferment will be offered to large businesses. Major industry partners, including pulp mills and mines, will be able to defer 50 per cent of their bill for three months.

Parliament will be recalled to support COVID-19 Emergency Aid

Federally, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said today Parliament will be recalled to pass new legislation to deliver enhanced COVID-19 emergency aid measures.

Key Messages to Share

- Practice [physical distancing](#) if you have to go out
- If you think you have COVID-19 take the self-assessment here: covid19.thrive.health
- Self-isolate at home for 10 days if you have COVID-19 symptoms