

COVID-19 UPDATE – April 16th, 2020

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

Key Updates for April 16th, 2020

- For a full list of updates from VCH visit vch.ca
- Premier Horgan announces provincial state of emergency extension
- Update on COVID-19 cases
- Canada Emergency Response Benefit available for part-time and seasonal workers
- Epidemiological modelling update and COVID-19 Town Hall

Provincial State of Emergency extended to April 28th

On April 15th, Premier John Horgan thanked British Columbians for our efforts to limit the spread of COVID-19, and said there is more work to do, which is why he announced that the provincial state of emergency is extended through the end of day April 28, giving the government continued power to take any steps necessary to respond to the health-care crisis and preserve the province's supply chains.

Update on COVID-19 cases

During Wednesday's Ministry of Health briefing, Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry announced 44 new cases of COVID-19 in the province, bringing the total to date to 1,561 confirmed cases. To date 955 people fully recovered. In the Vancouver Coastal Health region, there have been 670 confirmed cases since the pandemic began. There are still 21 long-term care and assisted living residences that are under outbreak protocol. Dr. Henry reported three more deaths since yesterday; one of them was in the VCH region. Our thoughts are with all of the families who have lost loved ones to this disease.

Canada Emergency Response Benefit available for part-time and seasonal workers

On April 15th, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that part-time and seasonal workers are now eligible to claim the \$2,000 Canada Emergency Response Benefit, and said he is also working with the provinces to boost wages for essential front-line staff to keep them on the job.

Epidemiological modelling update and COVID-19 Town Hall

On Friday April 17th at 11am, Dr. Henry will provide an update on the epidemiological modelling

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/live>

Also on Friday at 7:15pm, Mary Ackenhusen, VCH CEO and Dr. Patricia Daly, VCH Chief Medical Health Officer will participate as panelists in an hour-long COVID-19 virtual town hall

<https://www.facebook.com/events/564059514229655/>

www.gov.bc.ca/covid19townhalls

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