

LATEST UPDATE – JANUARY 14, 2022

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

Boosters available for pregnant women

People who are pregnant can now book a COVID-19 booster vaccine if it has been at least eight weeks since they received their second vaccine dose.

While it is recommended people get their booster six months after their second dose to ensure longer-lasting protection, it is important for pregnant people to receive their booster during pregnancy to ensure optimal protection for them and their baby.

People who indicate they are pregnant when they call the Get Vaccinated system (1-833-838-2323) will receive an invitation for a booster shot if it has been eight weeks or more since their second dose. Approximately 1,800 people have already stated that they are pregnant and will automatically receive an invitation.

Read [more](#).

Provincial update on transmission and hospitalizations

Provincial Health Officer (PHO) Dr. Bonnie Henry provided an update on the Omicron variant wave in the province. While community transmission of the Omicron variant appears to be declining, with the peak possibly already being reached this past weekend, hospitalizations will continue to rise for the next two weeks as there is typically a lag between the peak of community transmission and the peak of hospitalizations.

The PHO confirmed that the Omicron variant surged faster than previous variants, and continues to remind British Columbians to get vaccinated and boosted. This month, 70 percent of people in critical care who were primarily infected with the Omicron variant were unvaccinated, and two-thirds of the people who have died in 2022 had not been immunized. Nearly 17 per cent of British Columbians remain unvaccinated.

Vancouver Coastal Health COVID-19 testing update

A full list of testing centers can be accessed on the [BCCDC website](#) via the collection centre finder tool ([Mobile and desktop users](#) | [Internet Explorer users](#)). Please make sure to check the site's hours of operation and prior to your visit.

To support testing capacity and to prioritize care to those who are most vulnerable, Provincial Health Officer (PHO) Dr. Bonnie Henry recommends people with mild illness who are fully vaccinated can self-manage symptoms at home and don't need a test. Instead, if you're sick, stay away from others, rest, drink plenty of fluids, and get medical help if symptoms worsen. For more information about what to do if you're sick, visit [If You Have COVID-19 \(bccdc.ca\)](#).

In recent weeks, our testing site staff have experienced a significant increase in verbal and, at times, physical harassment. Acknowledging that this time is stressful for many, our staff are

working around-the-clock to provide care to those who need it. Thank you for your support as we keep our teams safe so they may focus on providing exceptional care, and please encourage others to be patient while VCH addresses the exceptional current demand for testing services.

COVID-19 vaccine update

As of Friday, Jan. 14, 2022, 89.0% (4,436,446) of eligible people five and older in B.C. have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine and 83.3% (4,152,386) have received their second dose.

In addition, 92.3% (4,278,594) of eligible people 12 and older in B.C. have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, 89.6% (4,151,964) have received their second dose and 30.5% (1,412,008) have received a third dose.

Also, 92.7% (4,008,308) of all eligible adults in B.C. have received their first dose, 90.0% (3,894,687) received their second dose and 32.6% (1,410,852) have received a third dose.

Since December 2020, the Province has administered 9,962,096 doses of Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, AstraZeneca and Pfizer Pediatric COVID-19 vaccines.

Ministry of Health update

In the Jan. 14, 2022, [statement](#) on B.C.'s COVID-19 response, 2,275 new cases were reported with 523 of those in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) area.

The total number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 in B.C. now stands at 293,521 since the start of the pandemic. There are 35,943 active cases of COVID-19 across B.C. currently.

646 COVID-positive individuals are in hospital and 95 are in intensive care. In the past 24 hours, six new deaths have been reported, for an overall total of 2,468.

Vancouver Coastal Health winter care campaign – know where to go for the right care

Winter can be an exciting time of year, but it also comes with an increase in people visiting the emergency department. After another extraordinary year, our health facilities continue to be safe places for patients. For critical, life-threatening conditions, please call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest emergency department. For other non-life-threatening matters, there are a number of options to seek care during the winter season.

Find out more [here](#) about where and when to seek care this winter.

Access translated resources in the following languages:

Winter care poster in [English](#) | [Chinese Simplified \(简体中文\)](#) | [Traditional \(繁體中文\)](#) | [Punjabi \(ਪੰਜਾਬੀ\)](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Korean \(한국어\)](#) | [Tagalog](#) | [Japanese](#) | [Farsi](#) | [Russian](#) | [Spanish \(Español\)](#) | [Vietnamese \(Tiếng Việt\)](#)

Winter care postcard in [English](#) | [Chinese Simplified \(简体中文\)](#) | [Traditional \(繁體中文\)](#) | [Punjabi \(ਪੰਜਾਬੀ\)](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Korean \(한국어\)](#) | [Tagalog](#) | [Japanese](#) | [Farsi](#) | [Russian](#) | [Spanish \(Español\)](#) | [Vietnamese \(Tiếng Việt\)](#)

VCH vaccination clinics

Access a full list of VCH vaccination clinics, including pop-up clinics, by visiting <http://www.vch.ca/vaccine>.

All clinics are accepting drop-ins for first and second doses, but appointments are required for children aged five to 11 years old, and for booster or third doses. All are welcome at our clinics, including those without personal health numbers and people who are not residents of B.C. To book a vaccine, [register on the provincial system](#) or call 1-833-838-2323. [Service BC locations](#) can also help you register for a vaccine.

Get your BC Vaccine Card online at gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard. Once verified, you will be able to save a digital copy to your mobile device or print a hard copy to present along with your government-issued photo identification when entering designated businesses. Don't have access to a computer? Get your card from a Service BC Centre or by calling 1-833-838-2323 at the Get Vaccinated call centre.

Community engagement opportunities

VCH values community input. Please consider participating in or sharing the featured community engagement opportunities below:

- [Mental Health & Substance Use Services - Dialectical Behavioral Therapy \(DBT\) Intake Process Review](#)
We are encouraging individuals with Borderline Personality Disorder or with traits of Borderline Personality Disorder, who have been looking to access or who have accessed the Dialectical Behaviour Therapy program at VCH Mental Health & Substance Outpatient Services, to complete the short survey below. We are also encouraging input from family members of prospective/current clients.
- [Become a Mental Health & Substance Use Interview Panel Advisor](#)
The Client and Family Support and Involvement Team for Vancouver Acute, Community & Regional Tertiary are seeking a number of client and family advisors that can be part of leadership interview panels in all of our Vancouver Mental Health and Substance Use areas: Vancouver Community, Vancouver Acute, and Regional Tertiary.
- [CEAN Engagement Review](#)
The Community Engagement Advisory Network (CEAN) is a network of patient and family advisors, volunteers and members of public who provide input on quality improvement, service improvement and other engagement projects at Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH). This is an opportunity to review numerous aspects of CEAN, including recruitment, onboarding, diversity, member engagement, project experience and supports. If you are or were previously involved with CEAN, we want to hear from you.

VCH community engagement opportunities can be found on our [Engage VCH](#) homepage.

Home support resource pamphlet

VCH has developed some resource material for home support services and how to access it. This information is available in various languages.

- **Home support pamphlet**

[[English](#)] | [[العربية Arabic](#)] | [[فارسی Farsi](#)] | [[Français French](#)] | [[Español Spanish](#)] | [[Tagalog](#)]
| [[Tiếng Việt Vietnamese](#)]

- **Home support client handbook**

[[English](#)] | [[فارسی Farsi](#)]

Other resources

Find the Provincial Health Officer's orders [here](#).

To see a map of **COVID-19 cases by local health area**, visit [here](#).

For the **latest medical updates**, including case counts, prevention, risks and testing, visit:
<http://www.bccdc.ca/>

For **community engagement opportunities** at VCH, see: <https://engage.vch.ca/>

COVID-19 vaccination resource toolkit

- **COVID-19 vaccine registration poster**

[[English](#)] | [[العربية Arabic](#)] | [[简体中文 Chinese Simplified](#)] | [[繁體中文 Chinese Traditional](#)] |
[[فارسی Farsi](#)] | [[한국어 Korean](#)] | [[ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Punjabi](#)] | [[Español Spanish](#)] | [[Tagalog](#)] | [[Tiếng Việt Vietnamese](#)]

- **Vaccine safety information**

[[English](#)] | [[简体中文 Chinese Simplified](#)] | [[繁體中文 Chinese Traditional](#)] | [[한국어 Korean](#)] |
[[ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Punjabi](#)] | [[Tagalog](#)]

- **Aftercare information**

[[English](#)] | [[العربية Arabic](#)] | [[American Sign Language - ASL](#)] | [[简体中文 Chinese Simplified](#)] |
[[繁體中文 Chinese Traditional](#)] | [[فارسی Farsi](#)] | [[Français French](#)] | [[한국어 Korean](#)] | [[ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Punjabi](#)] | [[Español Spanish](#)] | [[Tigrinya](#)] | [[Tiếng Việt Vietnamese](#)]

- **COVID-19 vaccine information sessions hosted by S.U.C.C.E.S.S. and VCH (Cantonese and Mandarin)**

[[Cantonese](#)] | [[Mandarin](#)]

- **COVID-19 vaccine Q&A with Dr. Ray Chaboyer**

[[English](#)]

- **COVID-19 vaccine info session by VCH Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. Patricia Daly**

[[English](#)]

Thank you

We appreciate the time you spend reading these updates and hope you find the information and resources useful. If you no longer wish to receive the VCH Community Partner Update, please reply or send an email to ce@vch.ca with the word “unsubscribe”. Thank you.

Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that our places of work and the Vancouver Coastal Health facilities lie on the traditional, unceded homelands of the fourteen First Nation Communities of the Heiltsuk, Kitasoo-Xai'xais, Lil'wat, Musqueam, N'Quatqua, Nuxalk, Samahquam, Sechelt, Skatin, Squamish, Tla'amin, Tsleil-Waututh, Wuikinuxv, and Xa'xtsa.