

## 3 NATIONS COVID-19 DAILY UPDATE – 24 April 2020

*The information contained in this report is based on recent updates and current information available at the time the report was finalized. It is not inclusive of all actions or measures taken to date by health officials provincially or locally.*

### COVID-19 CASE COUNTS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA AND THE YUKON

<b>STATUS OF CASES IN BC<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>As of April 23</b>	<b>As of April 24</b>	<b>Change</b>
Currently hospitalized in BC	103	96	-7
Currently in intensive care	44	41	-3
Total deaths in BC	94	98	4
Total recovered in BC	1,092	1,114	22
<b>Total Confirmed Cases in BC</b>	<b>1,824</b>	<b>1,853</b>	<b>29</b>

<b>CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>As of April 23</b>	<b>As of April 24</b>	<b>Change</b>
Vancouver Coastal Health	755	767	12
Fraser Health	760	772	12
Island Health	111	114	3
Interior Health	156	158	2
Northern Health	42	42	0
<b>Total Confirmed Cases in BC</b>	<b>1,824</b>	<b>1,853</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Total individuals tested in BC</b>	<b>68,553</b>	<b>71,415</b>	<b>2,862*</b>

<b>STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>As of April 23</b>	<b>As of April 24</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>Total individuals tested</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>888</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Total confirmed cases</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>
Recovered cases	8	8	0
Negative results	862	860	-2
Pending results	8	17	9

\* The BCCDC has reported '2,112 tests' but this does not align with the difference between statistics released for April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a6f23959a8b14bfa989e3cda29297ded>

<sup>2</sup> <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a6f23959a8b14bfa989e3cda29297ded>

<sup>3</sup> <https://yukon.ca/covid-19>

## LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- The province of BC has announced the \$50-million Connecting British Columbia program to give people in rural, remote and Indigenous communities in British Columbia access to faster internet services.<sup>4</sup>
  - This includes a funding stream to help internet service providers with immediate network equipment upgrades to rapidly improve capacity and internet speeds in underserved communities throughout the province.
- B.C.'s provincial health officer (PHO) has released an order for industrial camps and guidelines to protect people working in the silviculture sector during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>5</sup>
  - The BC Centre for Disease Control guidelines for those working in the silviculture sector require:
    - Screening of workers for symptoms or potential COVID-19 exposure;
    - Added hygiene measures in camps, including handwashing stations;
    - Training workers on how to stay safe while travelling to camp and to worksites;
    - Food preparation guidelines;
    - Limiting travel outside of camp; and
    - Having at least one infection and control co-ordinator at each site.
  - All tree planting employers are required to implement an infection prevention control plan for work camp locations, including field camps and hotel/motel accommodations, and must submit these plans to the ministry.
  - All forestry camps, accommodations and worksites will be inspected by provincial prevention and control officers to ensure all required health and safety measures are in place.
  - The Province has implemented on-site security at motels and hotels to ensure tree planters adhere to the PHO's orders and guidance.
  - The framework was developed through a partnership between the First Nations Health Authority, Northern Health and Provincial Health Services Authority. The work is guided by the principles of cultural safety and humility.
  - The framework provides flexibility so local leaders in rural, remote and Indigenous communities can adapt it to meet their unique needs. It will be implemented through full engagement with each of the communities' local leaders.

### Terrace

- No significant updates from the City of Terrace.

### Smithers

- No significant updates from the Town of Smithers.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020CITZ0008-000751>

<sup>5</sup> <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020FLNR0020-000752>

## LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Brendan Hanley, has announced that from April 27<sup>th</sup> the criteria for who is tested for COVID-19 in Yukon will be expanded.<sup>6</sup>
  - People will be tested if they have any one of the following symptoms and if they have travelled outside the territory in the last 14 days or have had close contact with anyone who has travelled outside the territory.
  - The symptoms for recent travelers include:
    - Fever
    - Chills
    - Cough
    - Difficulty breathing
    - A sore throat or hoarse voice
    - Headache
    - Runny nose or nasal congestion
    - Unexplained vomiting or diarrhea
    - Fatigue or muscle aches
    - Loss of smell or taste.
  - People with no travel history but who are experiencing fever, cough, or difficulty breathing can also be tested.
  - Testing will also be broadened in long-term care facility residents and the Whitehorse Emergency Shelter clients.

### Whitehorse

- No significant updates from the city of Whitehorse.

### Watson Lake

- No COVID-19 information for this community is currently available.

## LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- The Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, announced today that the federal government has reached an agreement in principle with all provinces and territories to implement the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) for small businesses.<sup>7</sup>
  - The CECRA will see B.C. small businesses receive a total of over \$300 million in federal-provincial relief, with B.C. contributing an estimated \$80 million.<sup>8</sup>
  - The 75% reduction in monthly rent for small businesses affected by COVID-19 will be achieved by providing forgivable loans to cover 50% of the rent payments for eligible small business tenants for April, May and June.

<sup>6</sup> <https://yukon.ca/en/news/april-24-2020-yukons-chief-medical-officer-health-provides-update-covid-19>

<sup>7</sup> <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/04/24/prime-minister-announces-partnerships-provinces-and-territories>

<sup>8</sup> <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020FIN0024-000754>

- The loans will be forgiven if the landlord reduces the tenant's monthly rent by at least 75%. The commercial tenant would be responsible for covering 25%, the property owner 25%, while the federal and provincial governments share the remaining 50%.
- The governments of Canada and Ontario are investing up to \$2.5 million to help the agri-food sector expand online, providing more opportunities for producers to grow their business and offer more food choices for families who are shopping from home during the COVID-19 outbreak.<sup>9</sup>
  - The Agri-Food Open for E-Business initiative will help food producers, farmers markets, retailers, garden centres, greenhouses, nurseries, and agricultural associations develop online business, providing consumers with greater access to a wide variety of food and agriculture products.

This summary was compiled by [CCEM Strategies Ltd.](#) at the request of the 3 Nations Society.

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2020/04/governments-invest-25-million-to-grow-agri-food-e-business-during-covid-19.html>