

3 NATIONS COVID-19 DAILY UPDATE – 19 May 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 federally, provincially or locally.

COVID-19 CASE COUNTS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA AND THE YUKON

STATUS OF CASES IN BC¹	As of May 15	As of May19*	Change
Currently hospitalized in BC	51	45	-6
Currently in intensive care	12	12	0
Total deaths in BC	140	146	6
Total recovered in BC	1,908	1,975	67
Total confirmed cases in BC	2,407	2,446	39

CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION²	As of May 15	As of May 19	Change
Vancouver Coastal Health	878	883	5
Fraser Health	1,164	1,196	32
Island Health	126	126	0
Interior Health	181	181	0
Northern Health	58	60	2
Total confirmed cases in BC	2,407	2,446	39
Total individuals tested in BC	118,335	125,044	**6,709

STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON³	As of May 15	As of May 19	Change
Total individuals tested	1,124	1,134	10
Total confirmed cases	11	11	0
Recovered cases	11	11	0
Negative results	1,102	1,117	15
Pending results	11	6	-5

* The BC Government reported 21 new cases May 16th, 8 new cases May 17th, 8 new cases May 18th and 2 new cases May 19th (39 total).

**The British Columbia Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) has reported 1,118 new tests but this does not align with the difference in total test numbers between May 15th and 19th which are the two most recent dates for which statistics are available.

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

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

³ <https://yukon.ca/covid-19>

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Dr. Bonnie Henry stated that today is the first day that many businesses may reopen as British Columbia has entered Phase 2 of its Restart Plan:⁴
 - “Following all the guidelines provided by WorkSafeBC, including having a COVID-19 safety plan in place, is a requirement for reopening.”
 - “WorkSafeBC’s public health guidance is now available for several industry sectors”.
- The BCCDC has announced that today the lowest number of new cases of COVID-19 has been reported since early March.⁵
 - In addition, the BCCDC has stated:
 - New hospitalizations and the number of cases in hospital continue to decrease.
 - The number of cases in critical care has been stable for about a week.
 - The proportion of positive tests has been consistently low for 3 weeks.
 - More than 80% of cases have been removed from isolation and are no longer considered infectious.
- Today the BC Minister of Finance announced that health and social service workers delivering in-person, front-line care to some of B.C.’s most vulnerable people will receive a financial boost through temporary COVID-19 pandemic pay.⁶
 - More than 250,000 eligible front-line workers will receive, a lump-sum payment of about \$4 per hour for a 16-week period, starting on March 15, 2020.
 - Eligible workers will receive the payment directly through their employer and do not need to apply.
- On May 16th it was announced that the Government of B.C., the City of Prince Rupert and North Coast Transition Society (NCTS) have partnered to purchase a building that will provide new, permanent, supportive housing for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.⁷
 - The Province, through BC Housing, has purchased the former Raffles Inn motel at 1080 3rd Ave. and will convert it into a permanent supportive housing building with up to 48 units.
 - The units will have private washrooms, showers and mini kitchens.
 - The building will also have the capacity for a 35-space temporary shelter or an extreme weather response shelter.
 - NCTS will operate the supportive housing building and will provide residents with 24/7 on-site staff and support services.
 - The Province will provide \$11.8 million to the project through the Supportive Housing Fund, as well as an annual operating subsidy of \$1.2 million.

⁴ Dr. Henry via live press conference 3:00pm 5/19/2020

⁵ http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/BC_Surveillance_Summary_May%2019%202020_FINAL.pdf

⁶ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020FIN0031-000907>

⁷ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020MAH0055-000896>

Terrace

- No significant updates from the City of Terrace

Smithers

- No significant updates from the Town of Smithers

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- Today the Government of Yukon announced an offer of financial support to families impacted by COVID-19 with children learning from home.⁸
 - Families with children in Kindergarten to Grade 12 who have been impacted by COVID-19 are eligible for \$250 per student.
 - The primary caregiver is eligible for this one-time payment if:
 - the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted their family;
 - they have children or youth enrolled in Kindergarten to Grade 12 at a Yukon public school; and
 - they are not already receiving funding support for home education or BC distance learning.
 - Primary caregivers are encouraged to apply before the end of the 2019-20 school year.
 - The primary caregiver for a family should apply for the funding through Sport Yukon, who will issue the funding on behalf of the Department of Education. To apply, please visit: <https://sportyukon.com/events-page/news/> or contact Sport Yukon at 867-668-4236 or info@sportyukon.com.
- As from May 15, 2020, the Territory is now in Phase 1 of the Government of Yukon's reopening plan, *A Path Forward*⁹.
 - **Combined Households:** Households can now choose one other household to join up with and not have to practice physical distancing with people in that household.
 - **Reopening businesses and services:**
 - Businesses and service providers that were not ordered to close may operate as long as they have a COVID-19 operational plan and have put safety precautions in place.
 - Recreational programming such as sporting events and day camps are possible, but organizers need to have an approved plan in place.
 - Businesses such as personal services and restaurants that were ordered to close will be able to open up again once an approved COVID-19 operational plan is in place.
 - Restaurants can continue to provide take-out and delivery services but must submit an operational plan to the government by May 29. The Yukon

⁸ <https://yukon.ca/en/news/government-yukon-offering-support-families-impacted-covid-19>

⁹ <https://yukon.ca/en/path-forward-yukons-plan-lifting-covid-19-restrictions>

Government is currently preparing guidelines for those restaurants planning to restore table service.

- All other employers are also required to complete COVID-19 operational plans and have them available for inspection, but these do not need to be submitted for approval.
- Territorial campgrounds are on track to open on June 4 but remain closed at this time.

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 today announced an expansion to the eligibility criteria for the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) to include many owner-operated small businesses.¹⁰
 - This will allow more Canadian small businesses to access interest free loans.
 - The program will now be available to a greater number of businesses that:
 - Are sole proprietors receiving income directly from their businesses.
 - Rely on contractors.
 - Are family-owned corporations that pay employees through dividends rather than payroll.
- On May 16th the Prime Minister announced up to \$100 million in funding to help the Red Cross meet increased demand due to COVID-19, and to support future floods and wildfire relief efforts.¹¹
 - This funding includes up to \$41 million to address immediate COVID-19 needs, with over \$15 million committed to enhance the Red Cross' response capacity and \$25 million to support public health efforts.
- On May 16th the Government of Canada announced that it will provide \$15 million in additional funding to support women entrepreneurs through the Women Entrepreneurship Strategy (WES).¹²
 - This money will go directly to select organizations that are currently WES Ecosystem Fund recipients and will help women entrepreneurs through the COVID-19 pandemic.

¹⁰ <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/19/prime-minister-announces-expansion-support-workers-and-small>

¹¹ <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/16/prime-minister-announces-support-canadian-red-cross>

¹² <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2020/05/minister-ng-announces-more-support-for-women-entrepreneurs-amid-covid-19.html>

- On May 16th the Prime Minister announced the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) will be increased in July, to help families keep up with the costs of living and raising their children during the pandemic.¹³
 - This special measure will give families currently receiving the CCB an additional \$300 per child with their May payment.
- On April 4, 2020 the Government of Canada announced up to \$40 million through Women and Gender Equality Canada for women fleeing gender-based violence. Today, the Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development, announced that this funding has been disbursed to over 500 women’s shelters and sexual assault centres across the country.¹⁴

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

¹³ <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/16/prime-minister-announces-annual-increase-canada-child-benefit>

¹⁴ <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2020/05/government-of-canada-supports-over-500-womens-shelters-and-sexual-assault-centres-during-the-covid-19-pandemic.html>